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THE ORDINANCES
OF BRISTOL
1506–1598

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General Editor: JOSEPH BETTEY M.A., PH.D., F.S.A.

Assistant General Editor: MISS ELIZABETH RALPH, M.A., F.S.A.

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EDITED BY
MAUREEN STANFORD

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** These ordinances are listed as still in force at the beginning of two seventeenth century books of ordinances, Bristol Record Office 04273(1) and 04273(2).

* These ordinances are listed as still in force at the beginning of Bristol Record Office 04273(1), but omitted from 04273(2).

INTRODUCTION

This volume of *Ordinances of Bristol* is the first surviving enrolment of the ordinances of the Common Council of Bristol covering the years 1506–1598. The volume is written on parchment and is bound within boards covered in vellum which is not the original binding. The endpapers have a watermark depicting a fleur de lys and the paper maker's name, C. & I. Honig. It has not been possible to identify the watermark and thus date when the volume was rebound. An entry at the end of the book is dated 1667; therefore it might be assumed that the volume was bound during the latter part of the seventeenth century. The volume is in Bristol Record Office, No. 04272.

It would appear that the first 46 folios comprised membranes stitched together but not bound. The account of ordinances passed in 1582 on folio 44 is followed by two blank pages and folios 45v and 46 consist of a Table of Contents. This suggests that the volume was intended to end there. The Table of Contents is in a different hand to that of the main part of the text and was probably written by the Town Clerk, William Saxcey, who retired from the office of town clerk in 1581. Although not signed by him the Table of Contents is in the same hand as that in *The Great White Book* where his signature appears.

When the ordinances resume at folio 51, the style begins to change, possibly reflecting the influence of the new Town Clerk. For instance, lists of the names of councillors, previously given at the end of most entries, occur only twice more; from 1585 the year in figures is added to the regnal year; the name of the mayor is not always given. The last entry of ordinances is in December 1598. There follow three blank pages and then two seventeenth-century additions, one dated 1666, the other 1667. The last entry on folio 75 is an oath for schoolmasters written in an earlier hand.

Throughout the book there are marginal notes in a hand different from the main text. There are two types of notes. One gives a brief summary of the ordinance and the other gives the words 'void', 'to continue' or 'repealed' against the entry. There is no definite indication as to when this latter type of marginal note was added, but

in 1584 a committee was appointed to consider which ordinances should be repealed, and again, in 1598, a committee was asked to see which ordinances in 'the biffett booke' should continue to be in force and which repealed. As the Proceedings of the Common Council begin in 1598, it could be that this committee proposed, and it was agreed, that the business of the Council should be recorded in a more formal manner. From 1598 the Proceedings of Council are complete to the present day.

This book of ordinances is not the first volume of ordinances. In 1344 William de Colford set down in writing 'all the ordinances, customs and liberties of the town' in *The Little Red Book* and in this book are enrolled further ordinances until *The Little Red Book* was nearly completed in the mid-fifteenth century. After this time ordinances are enrolled in *The Great Red Book* which was already in being. The last ordinance enrolled in *The Great Red Book* is dated 1485. There is a gap between 1485 and the beginning of the book of ordinances in 1506 and no enrolment of ordinances for this period can be traced.

On the first folio the book of ordinances is inscribed 'No V, Vetus Liber Ordinacionum' and the folio is written in a hand similar, or the same as, the marginal notes and therefore possibly written later than the rest of the book. There is evidence among the records of the Common Council at this time that the business of the day was recorded roughly in one book and later a fair copy was made, in separate volumes, e.g. enrolment of apprentices, of freemen and of the assize of bread. It is probable that this book of ordinances, up to folio 44 at least, was a fair copy of earlier records because there is a gap of twenty-four years in the list of ordinances. An ordinance passed in the mayoralty of Thomas Broke (1526-7) has on the reverse folio an ordinance passed in the mayoralty of William Jay in 1551. The fact that this second entry is on the reverse of the first supports the theory that the beginning of the volume is a fair copy of earlier ordinances. It would seem that those for 1526-1551 were at that time missing. These were important years both for Bristol, which became a city in 1542, and for the country as a whole because of the religious changes, as a result of which Bristol acquired some of the monastic lands. The Council was certainly not inactive during those years. In 1529 the Mayor and Commonalty petitioned the Crown for a grant of a Candlemas Fair in the parish of Redcliffe but when in 1544 the fair had become too popular for their liking, they tried to abolish it.¹ Redcliffe resisted this and the case was tried in the Court of Star Chamber. The contention that this book is a copy of an earlier one, or of earlier documents, is strengthened by a statement in Robert Ricart: *The Maire of Bristowe is Kalendar* where, under the mayoralty of William Shipman in 1534, it states that £400 was received from the executors of Robert Thorne for the support of young clothmakers,² and goes on to

¹ *The Great White Book of Bristol*, ed. Elizabeth Ralph, B.R.S., Vol. XXXII, 1979, pp. 4-5.

² Robert Ricart: *The Maire of Bristowe is Kalendar*, ed. L. Toulmin-Smith, Camden Society, 1872, p. 53.

say 'Theordynance whereof appereth in the Boke of Ordenaunces in the tyme of the said Maire the xxij day of January Anno r.r. H. VIII xxvto.' This would imply that when this entry was made in Ricart's *Kalendar* an enrolment of ordinances must have existed for the years 1526–1551.

A deletion in 1570 may give some indication of when the earlier part of the book was in existence. In that year William Yate was fined for boiling tallow to make soap. This is heavily crossed out and a note in the margin reads: 'Mr. Wm. Yate being maior Stroke out this.' He was mayor in 1596 and so it seems likely that the first part of the book, possibly up to the Table of Contents, had already been copied by then.

*The Composition of the Council*³

At the beginning of the sixteenth century, as laid down in the Charter of 1499, the Council consisted of 43 burgesses, five of whom were to be aldermen each in charge of one of the five wards and having the same powers as the aldermen of London. They were also to be Justices of the Peace. Each year one of the aldermen was elected mayor. Two sheriffs were also elected annually. In 1542 the town of Bristol became a city, a fact not stated in the book of ordinances as it occurred during the period when no ordinances are recorded. The Charter of 1581 increased the number of aldermen to twelve, including the Recorder. (Thomas Cromwell was the most famous Recorder of Bristol, elected in 1533, his duties being performed by a deputy.)

The mayor was elected on 15th September and Ricart describes the annual ceremony.⁴ The mayor and aldermen formed an inner cabinet, meeting weekly after 1560, the whole Council meeting on the first Tuesday of every month, as decreed by an ordinance of 1565. The duties of the two sheriffs elected annually were heavy and costly. They combined their duties with those of bailiffs and were usually young men. For example, Thomas Rowland and Richard Cole were the sheriffs for 1569, the first year their names appeared on a list of councillors in the book of ordinances. Fifteen years later in 1584 Thomas Rowland was elected mayor, Richard Cole succeeding him in 1585. The heavy charges borne by these young men were revealed in 1518 when William Dale appealed to Wolsey against the terms of his appointment. In the mayoral year 1518–19 it was decreed that the Council should bear all expenses for 'the subdewing of the malicious purpose of William Dale and his Confederates'.

The two important officers in the administration of Bristol were the Chamberlain and the Town Clerk. The Chamberlain was a man of some standing and had charge of the city's funds. An ordinance of 1553–54 states that he is not to be under the degree of Bencher, that is, he must be one of the senior members of an Inn of Court. His

³ This is discussed more fully in *Bristol Charters 1509–1899*, ed. R.C. Latham, B.R.S., Vol. XII, 1974, Introduction. See also Elizabeth Ralph: *Government of Bristol 1373–1973*, published by Corporation of Bristol, 1973, p. 5–11.

⁴ Ricart, *op. cit.*, p. 5.

accounts survive from 1532 and his work increased when Bristol acquired lands after the Dissolution of the monasteries. Three Chamberlains are mentioned in the book of ordinances: John Willy appointed in 1553, Robert Halton first mentioned in 1566, and Nicholas Thorne appointed in 1584. The Town Clerk advised the mayor on all legal matters. He was to be resident in Bristol and an utterbarrister, that is, a junior counsel. The appointment of William Saxcey is recorded in 1575 and he was succeeded by Hierome Ham in 1581.

An honorary office created in Henry VIII's reign was that of the Lord High Steward. In 1570 the Earl of Leicester was appointed on the death of the Earl of Pembroke. It was hoped, of course, that such men would prove a friend at Court and in 1570 it was decreed that the holder must be a Privy Councillor.

The Council clearly had a proper sense of its own dignity and the importance of its position. Councillors were to present a fitting outward appearance in public. This is shown by ordinances specifying that the mayor and councillors were to wear their scarlet gowns on certain days and that councillors were to accompany the mayor 'decentlie in their typpettes of Black velvette' at various solemn assemblies. Even councillors' wives were not exempt: those whose husbands had filled the office of mayor or sheriff were to wear scarlet gowns on solemn festival days. A fine awaited an alderman who came to the 'place of Audience or to the Tolsey, or the Guildhall in any other fashion gowne then an aldermans gowne of the graveste sorte.'

It is clear from the case of William Orenge in 1585 that the Council resented any interference from London. On this occasion the Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Pembroke, had asked for preferment for William Orenge. He was promised the office of Town Clerk when it became vacant and given the Stewardship of the Tolzey Court there and then, with the proviso that he became an utterbarrister and be guided in any dispute by four councillors. Although the Council obviously thought it politic to accede to the Chancellor's request on that occasion, it was stressed that in future ancient usages should be followed and no suit should be made for any office except openly in the Council, a ruling to be enforced by a fine of £10.

The Functions of the Council

In an ordinance of 1579 the city is described as 'the common mother and nurse of them all', to the maintenance of which all burgesses are urged to apply themselves by all means possible. If the Council be taken to embody the city, the ordinances can be seen as the way in which the 'mother' attempts to rule the city for its own good and the prosperity of its burgesses, among the wealthiest of whom were, no doubt, the aldermen and councillors themselves. National events are not much in evidence in this book – the only ordinance recorded in 1588, Armada year, was the appointment of a weigher for merchandise.

The main duty of the Council was to organize the government of Bristol and so there are ordinances dealing with such matters as the

procedure for the election of the mayor, the appointment of officers, the appointment of committees and the discipline of non-attendant or non-resident councillors. Ordinances also decreed how often and when the Council and also the inner cabinet of mayor and aldermen should meet.

One of the most important functions of the Council was the control of trade. The ordinances of the various guilds had to be ratified by the Council.⁵ In 1570 it decreed that the woollen drapers should be a company and the following year sanctioned the dissolution of the Company of Tylers, Carpenters and Masons. The very first ordinance in the book rules that cloth should be shorn by shearmen only, another ordinance in 1560 decrees that candles are to be made by chandlers only and not by butchers and there are similar instances of the Council preventing outsiders encroaching upon areas properly controlled by the guilds.

In common with other towns at this period, the right to trade was restricted to burgesses and the rights of Bristolians were jealously guarded against intrusion by 'strangers' or 'foreigners'. Goods coming into Bristol were to be brought to the Back Hall, near Bristol Bridge.⁶ It was here in the Back Hall that many of the bargains struck between burgesses and strangers were made by brokers, where dues were paid and where brokers were to register all bargains in a 'faire booke'. However, it would seem from the number of times the ordinance is restated and the fines imposed for evasion, that Bristolians did not always put the common good first:— John Whitson was fined £10 in 1586 for bringing a stranger into the Back Hall. The book of ordinances contains the oath to be taken by the brokers in which they promised that their transactions would be 'true and indifferent' between merchant and merchant, that they would not colour strangers' goods or allow bargains between strangers to take place without the mayor's knowledge.

It was vital for the trade of Bristol that goods should come up the River Avon without hindrance and the Water Bailiff, who was in charge of the shipping in the port, played an important part in seeing that the river was kept clear. Because of the high tidal range along this coast, the silting or blockage of the river was a continual problem. There were two places where the ships waited for the right wind and tide: King Road in the River Severn downstream from the mouth of the Avon and Hung Road in the River Avon about a mile from where it flows into the Severn. Pilots were needed to take ships from King Road to Hung Road and from there up to the Quay or Back in the centre of Bristol. The placing of ships waiting for the tide in Hung Road had to be carefully managed in the restricted space and in an ordinance concerning the Hung Road made in 1579 it was laid down that anyone in charge of a ship was to be obedient to the Water

⁵ For a discussion of the guilds see *The Great Red Book of Bristol*, ed. E.W.W. Veale, B.R.S., Vol. IV, part I, 1933.

⁶ For further details see Jean Vanes: *The Port of Bristol in the Sixteenth Century*, Bristol Branch of the Historical Association, 1977, pp. 15–18.

Bailiff who decided where the ships should be moored. In that year the wreck of the 'Golden Lyon', which was blocking the river at Hung Road, caused considerable consternation and 'the utter impoverishing of this honorable cytye' was likely to occur unless everyone worked together to clear it as soon as possible. Sand used as ballast was also a problem if it were tipped into the river and the ordinance for Hung Road makes it clear that the Water Bailiff was to decide where it should be taken up or cast out of the ship. The problem of river silting upstream was aggravated by the soapmakers' practice of throwing the ashes left from their soapmaking into the river. This was likely to cause 'the utter decaie and destruccion' of the river, so much so that the Council imposed a fine in 1566 on those who continued to dispose of their ashes in this way. But seven years later, in 1573, the problem still existed and a new ordinance repeated that soap ashes were not to be deposited in the river or even carried away by water.

Many of the Council ordinances, as might be expected, deal with the good government of Bristol e.g. the price of bread, the brewing of wholesome ale, as to where waggons should discharge their goods or the number of stalls allowed on market days. That the Council had some concern for the cleanliness of the main thoroughfares is shown by the levying of taxes on the inhabitants in 1594 and 1598 to pay the wages of one Raker. The ordinance of 1585 decreed that 'unnecessary' dogs should be killed to avoid infection in summer. Safety was also important: in 1575 it was ordained that those foolhardy enough to allow fire 'flamyng out of any parte of any house' should be fined and in 1586 it was laid down that councillors and substantial burgesses were to keep six leather buckets of water in their houses in case of fire.

The Council made provision for the poorer members of the community as can be seen from such ordinances as that of 1573, when it decided to borrow some of Sir Thomas White and Robert Thorne's bequest to provide grain for the poor, and in 1585 when the councillors themselves lent money for the provision of corn for the poor. In 1571 money was borrowed from the craft companies to buy coal for the poor. But, perhaps naturally, the Council did not want to support any but its own poor and, reiterating national laws, the ordinance of 1596 set down the procedure each parish should follow in seeking out and expelling the poor not belonging to that parish.

As well as poor relief, given out at time of dearth and hardship, another function of the Council was to administer several regular charities and these must have assumed greater importance at the cessation of monastic charity after the Dissolution. Two of these were almshouses with chapels attached, the Trinity Hospital at Lawford's Gate and that attached to the Chapel of the Three Kings of Cologne at the top of Christmas Steps overlooking the Quay and several of the ordinances deal with the administration of these two Hospitals.⁷

A further function of the Council was to oversee the education and

⁷ See F.H. Towill 'Bristol Charities, Past and Present' in *Bristol and Its Adjoining Counties*, ed. C.M. MacInnes and W.F. Whittard, Bristol, 1955.

training of some of its young citizens. The merchants, Robert and Nicholas Thorne, whose wealth came largely from trade with Spain, gave money in 1532 to refound St. Bartholomew's School, the precursor of Bristol Grammar School. In 1583 the Council, who were governors, appointed six men, including a Nicholas Thorne, to survey the school and in 1598 four councillors were to oversee the 'reformation of such matters as they shall find amisse there'. The Council was also involved in the management of Queen Elizabeth's Hospital. John Carr, a soap builder who died in 1586, left money for the foundation of this school, the governors of which were to be the Council. Three ordinances are concerned with the redeeming of the lands he left for this purpose.

Two other charities administered by the Council were the sums of money left to them by Robert Thorne and Sir Thomas White.⁸ Robert Thorne, an alderman and, as we have seen, benefactor of Bristol Grammar School, left £500 in 1532 to be used to help young clothmakers. Sums of £50 were to be lent to worthy young men free of interest for a year and it was the Council's duty to see that the money was administered correctly. In 1567 it was laid down that the decision about who should receive the money should be taken by the mayor and aldermen and not by the mayor alone, so presumably the councillors did not want this important patronage to be solely in the mayor's gift.

Sir Thomas White's gift was more complicated. He was a merchant taylor of London whose benefactions were many, notably to St. John's College, Oxford, and Merchant Taylors' School, London, as well as to Bristol. By a tripartite indenture dated 1st July 1566 between the Mayor and Commonalty of Bristol, St. John's College, Oxford, and the Merchant Taylors' Company of London, it was acknowledged that Bristol had received a gift of £2000. The Council was to use the gift to purchase lands to produce a clear yearly income of 'six score poundes'. This money was to be used to provide two young men, inhabitants of good repute and preferably clothiers, with £50 each at the Feast of St. Martin. This was to be a free loan repayable to the Council after ten years. Every year for eight years two young men were to be chosen to receive £50, but from then on Bristol was to disburse annually on the Feast of St. Bartholomew £104 to twenty-two named towns and the Merchant Taylors' Company in rotation, a cycle of twenty-three years. Money could also be paid out to buy corn for the poor. This tripartite agreement is referred to in 1585 when the Council appointed a committee to find out who had any of the money given by Robert Thorne and Thomas White and to see that it was being put to good use.

Orphans were another concern of Bristol 'as the common mother and nurse', or at least those orphans with money and goods to be safeguarded. In 1566 John White was to be Father of the Orphans and in consideration of the work involved and the payment of 40 marks he was not to be chosen as sheriff for the next six years. In 1575

⁸ For further details see T.J. Manchee: *Bristol Charities*, 2 vols., 1831.

the ordinances concerning orphans were stated to be enrolled in *The Great White Book*.⁹ In 1576 four assistants were chosen to sit every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon, so it would seem that the care of the property and welfare of orphans entailed a considerable amount of work.

During the 1580s a new tone creeps into some of the ordinances which hitherto have been merely practical. In 1560 it was simply decreed that aldermen should diligently put down 'crockbrewers' in their wards, but in 1581 the crockbrewers are berated for opening their houses to people who are 'consumyng their tyme there in excessive drinkinge, gamyng and other like disorders to the displeasure of Almightye God and their own utter impoverishment'. The same ordinance decrees that the innkeepers should keep their doors shut on Sundays and festival days. A few years later, in 1585, each parish had to contribute to the payment of a 'learned preacher' to preach the word of God twice a week. It is interesting to note that during the reigns of Edward VI and Mary no religious overtones appear in the ordinances. (The years of the Henrician reformation occur in the period when no ordinances are recorded.) This same rather puritanical attitude can perhaps also be discerned in the ordinance of 1586 forbidding 'unlawful games' in the city because of the 'many greate inconveniences and disorders that have heere-tofore happened'. The ordinance also forbids any players in the Guildhall except before the mayor and his brethren and some nine years later players are forbidden altogether in the Guildhall, or in the city after sunset, and any mayor breaking this rule is to be fined.

This volume of ordinances of the Common Council which was the predecessor of the Common Council Proceedings which begin in 1598 is of great importance because so little evidence has survived to inform us of the administration of the government of Bristol in the sixteenth century.

⁹ The ordinance is printed in full in *The Great White Book of Bristol*, *op. cit.*, pp. 124-131.

EDITORIAL NOTE

Contractions have been extended and letters on the half-line have been dropped to the line for ease of printing so that *vj^s* becomes *vjs*. Capital letters and i, j, u and v have been modernised, and punctuation added where the sense made it seem necessary, but otherwise the original spelling of the manuscript has been followed. Marginal notes have been placed in brackets after the entries to which they refer. All editorial additions are in italics.

The only abbreviation used is B.R.O. for Bristol Record Office.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to acknowledge my sincere thanks to Mr John Williams and the staff at the Bristol Record Office for their assistance and advice. In particular I am much indebted to Miss Elizabeth Ralph for her willing and patient help. I would also like to record my thanks to my husband for his help and encouragement.

THE ORDINANCES OF BRISTOL
1506–1598

EDITED BY
MAUREEN STANFORD

No. V

Folio 1 Vetus Liber Ordinacionum

The Kallendar of this boock in fo. 46

[*In the margin Civitas Bristollie*]

Ordynances made and established by the Mayor and Common Councel of the cytie of Bristoll for the good government of the same cytie by vertue of the Charter on that behalf graunted to the Mayor and Comunaltye as hereafter followeth.

Videlicet

Hic liber incipit Anno Regni Regis Henrici septimi vicesimo primo
Tempore Rogeri Dawes Maioris Bristollie

Folio 1v TEMPORE ROGER DAWES MAIORIS
VILLE BRISTOLLIE ANNO REGNI
REGIS HENRICI SEPTIMI VICESIMO
PRIMO 1506¹⁰

Memorandum that the xvijth day of Octobre in the yere above written it was enacted and agreed in the Councell House that it shall not be lawfull to any burgeis or other merchaunt of this towne of Bristowe to cause any maner of clothes to be shoren within their houses in this towne, but that suche clothes be shorne oonly by suche parsons that be of the crafte of Shermen and in their houses upon payne of xl s. to be forfeited at every tyme that any other parsons then suche as be of the said crafte is founde with shering of any maner clothe in his house contrary to this ordynance. Provided alway that this ordynance extends not nor be not hurtefull to the Towkers¹¹ of this towne, but that it shalbe lefull to them to mowster cantell¹² and to shere the wrap playte of all such clothes as they shall towke for other men or contrey clothes that shalbe brought to them by burgeises of the same towne. The said payne to be devided the oon half to the Chambre and the other half to the said crafte. Also it shall not be lefull to any Sherman to use any other crafte or occupacion within this towne but his owne Shermens crafte upon lyke payne of xl

¹⁰ 1506 is added in another hand. It should be 1505.

¹¹ Tucker: an alternative for fuller.

¹² Cantall: a quarter piece of a garment.

s. to be forfeited to the Chambre wholye, excepte oonly to die suche clothes as they make in their owne houses.

[*In the margin* Cloth to be shorne only by the shereman. To continue. *Struck through* To be consydered.]

Also where it hathe byn complayned that the bruers of this towne have used herebefore to take whome agayne to their house from their customers beyng tapsters within this towne all suche ale as hathe byn founde turned fuystie dede and unhable to be dronken within iij days after the clensing of the same. Whiche unholsum ale the same bruers of crafte and subtilitie have used to putt among the ale at the nexte bruyng. And so do utter the same unto the kinges people within this towne, wherbie it is lykely that som persons herebefore have oftentimes taken infeccion and disease. It is therefore enacted this present day that it shall not be lefull to any suche bruer to take whom agayne into their houses from the houses of their customers any suche refuced ale, but that the same so founde fawtie be furthwith caste into the strete before the dore of the same customer or tapster by the Sargeant of the warde whereof suche defalte is founde.

[*In the margin and almost illegible* No brewer . . . Il Resse from customers . . . fore iij days . . . To continue.]

And if any of them do contrary and the defalte dylie proved *Folio 2* before the Mayor, the bruer so doying contrary to this Acte shall forfeit at every defalte xx s. and the tapster xl d. half to the Shrffe and half to the Chambre. And also that no bruer do put any hoppes¹³ amongst the ale that they shall brue hereafter any tyme in the yere but oonly in the monethes of Juyn July and August upon payne to forfeit at every defalte xl s. half to the Chambre and half to the Shrifves

[*In the margin* No hoppes to be put in ale. To contynewe.]

Also it shall not be lefull to any burgeys of this towne makyng any clothe to sende any yarne owte of this towne into the contreye to be woven in the contrey upon payn to forfeyte for every defalte vj s. viij d. the oon half to the Chambre and thother half to the crafte.

[*In the margin* No yarne to be given in to the contre to be woven. To contynewe.]

Also it is ordeyned that if any person of the Councell house after that he be duly warned to his person or to his wife by oon of the Mayors Sargeauntes and commaunded in the Mayors name to appere in the Councell House do not come into the same House by the houre of x of the same daye but wilfully absent hymself from thens that he shall forfayte to the Chambre for every defalte so absenting wilfully – xl d.

[*In the margin* Every brother of the housse apon warnyng to apere. To contynewe.]

Item it is enacted that all suche issues and amercyamentes of all

¹³ Hops were only just being introduced into England in the early sixteenth century. Joyce Youings: *Social History of Britain: Sixteenth-Century England*, Pelican, 1984, p. 231, states that they were being grown in many parts of south-east England though probably not for market. However, Bristol brewers obtained them, so perhaps they were grown locally or obtained from the south-east.

suche persons as make defalte at the Sessions of Pece, Lawedaye or any other courte if they were lawfully warned and have no lawfull excuse, that the same issues and amercyamentes be leveyd without favour by the Shrifves to their owne profettes, that is to say of every person making defalte at the Sessyons or Lawedaye – vj d. and every other courte – iij d.

[*In the margin* xij d. vj d. Fynes for not appering at the Sessions lawday and other courtes. To contynewe with greater penalty.]

Item it is considered that forasmuche that the ale is not sufficient and stronge according to the Statute and after the price of malte whiche they have byn oftentimes commaunden to the Mayor to amende, whereof they take no regarde, that therfore the bruers be eftesones warned to amende their assise upon payne to forfait at the first defalte xx s. and at the seconde tyme xl s.

[*In the margin* Brewers for maiking of all alle. To contynewe.]

Folio 2v TEMPORE JOHANNIS VAUGHAN
MAIORIS VILLE BRISTOLLIE ANNO
REGNI REGIS HENRICI SEPTIMI
XXIIJO.

Et concordatum est quod liceat cuilibet burgensi ville predictae de Occupacione mercatorum Grocerum et mercerum accipere Apprenticiū ad terminem Septem Annorum si voluerint vel plurium annorum prout magistri et apprenticii concordare potuerint aliqua Ordinacio prius in contrarium facta non obstanti.

[*In the margin* Apprentices. To continewe.]

Item that if any merchaunt or burgeys of this towne of Bristowe do sende owte of the same towne any iron, wyne or other merchaundise by land or by water yf the same be after or before solde by the said burgeys in any towne to such person or persons as byn custom free, that then the same burgeys shall not be charged in any wise with the payment of any custom to the Shrifves of this towne for the said merchaundise so sent furthe. But if the said burgeys so sending owte suche merchaundise do sell the same to any person or persons not beyng custom free, that then the same burgeys shalbe charged with the payment of the custom for the same. And he that shalbe founde indefalte of concelement of any strangers goods contrary to this ordynance shall forfeytt suche a payne as shalbe assessed upon hym after the Mayors discrecyon to thuse of the Shrifves for the tyme beyng.

[*In the margin* Custome. Concealment of straungers goodes.]

CLAUSULA CONTENTA IN CARTA
DOMINI REGIS EDWARDI TERTIJ¹⁴

Morover we gave graunted and by thise presents graunt to the said Mayor and Cominaltie to their heirs and successors forever that the said Mayor of Bristowe and his successors for the tyme beyng and ij Aldermen of the same towne for the tyme beyng by the Mayor of the same towne that for the tyme shalbe to be named and assigned with thassent of the Comynaltie of the towne aforesaid may chuse succes-

¹⁴ 'Edward tertij' inserted in text in a different hand.

sively forever from tyme to tyme xl men of the best and moost apte men of the same towne suburbies and precynct as often tymes as nede shalbe. That if difficultie or defalte shalbe in any customs or ordynances had and used in the said towne of Bristowe suburbies and precyncte of the same or of the newe rysyng, in the whiche no remedy as yet is putt

Folio 3 In the cace aforesaid the same mayor and ij Aldremen therunto as before is said to be named and assigned. And the xl men of the same towne for the tyme beyng of their comon assent have power to ordeyne and establishe a competent remedy or competent remedies that shalbe consonant to reason and profytable for the Comynaltie aforesaid.

[*In the margin* To continewe.]

And that the said Mayor and ij Aldermen therunto as be aforesaid to be named and assigned and the xl men and their successors for the necessities and profettes of the said towne of Bristowe suburbies and precyncte of the same of the common assent may assesse tallage upon the goods of almaner persons of the towne aforesaid suburbies and precyncte forsaid of every person after his estate aswell upon their rents as for their misteris and merchaundises and otherwise as they shall see best to be don and the same tallage to levey without ympechement of us our heysr or successors, the Justices or other mynysters of us and of our heysr and successors whatsoever they be. So that the money therof remayne in the keping of ij apte men of the same towne of Bristowe of their comon assent therunto to be chosen. And that it be spent for the necessities and profittes of the said towne when nede shalbe owte of the keping of the said ij men. Whiche ij men shalbe therof accomptable afore the Mayor of the said towne for the tyme being or ij other burgeises of the same towne by the same Mayor therunto to be deputed.

[*In the margin and partly concealed* by pow . . . of Charta to levey upon the inabytantes any some of mony . . . comodytie of the comen welthe. To contynewe.

In the margin on the right To levey a taske upon thynhabitantes.]

And if any of the said towne of Bristowe suburbe or precyncte of the same towne hereafter do rebell and inobedient and will not accorde unto the ordynances of the said Mayor and ij Aldermen therunto as before is said to be named and assigned and of the said xl men that for the tyme shalbe. And also if there be any leders feloshipps procurators abbettors or maynteners for to lede the same feloships to make debates and ympedyments whereof discorde betwyne the Comynalty of the said towne of Bristowe and the said Mayor for the tyme being and the ij Aldermen as is aforesaid to be named and assigned and other mynysters which have rule to kepe *Folio 3v* the peace of us our heysr and successors or to make debate or discorde upon the eleccion of the Mayor or other mynyster, whatsoever he bee of the said towne suburbies and precynkte, or for to fulfill any ordynaunces whiche of the comon assent as before is said for the profett and necessitie of the said towne suburbies and precyncte be established and ordeyned or to be ordeyned anon by the

Mayor and ij Aldremen of the saide towne of Bristowe to be named and assigned as afore is said for the tyme being shalbe in due wise chastised after the quantitie and qualitie of the trespas after the law and custom of our Realme of England.

[*In the margin on Folio 3* Disobedient burgesses. To contynewe.]

TEMPORE RICHARDI HOBBY
MAIORIS VILLE BRISTOLLIE ANNO
REGNI REGIS HENRICI SEPTIMI
XXIIIIJO

The whole house is contented that the Towne Clerke and other lerned Councell of this towne shall make serche of all Charters graunted to this towne and to drawe owte almaner of poynts and articles and comprised in the same Charteres wherbye a clayme may be sufficyently made by thadvice of sargeautes prothonotaries and other lerned Councell agaynst the commying of the Justices in Oyre. And the said towne clerke to be rewarded for his labor.

[*In the margin Continued.*]

Also it is ordeyned by all the whole house that no owner or owners of any shipp shippes or other vesseles belonging to the said towne shall wage or hire any maister or maryners to serve them in any vyage. But oonly suche maisters as maryners as been dwellers within the said towne, if there be sufficient persons within the same towne. [*In the margin and partly illegible . . . of shippes dwellyng in Bristow to be preffered before . . . gers. To be repealed.*]

Item Brokers for merchaundises chosen by all the house. George Meke and John Harrys. So that they do fynde suerties of xl li. truly to answeare to all persons. Suche goods as shall comme to their hands by reason of their said office of brocage.

[*In the margin and partly illegible* Brokers . . . of brokers . . . in Mr Elyot tyme. Voide.]

Folio 4 TEMPORE JOHANNIS ROWLONDE
MAIORIS VILLE BRISTOLLIE ANNO
REGNI REGIS HENRICI OCTAVI IJ

Memorandum quod iijo die anno predicto Humfruis Browne electus est in vicecomitem ex assensu totius Concilii tunc existentia in Domo eiusdem concilii pro eo quod Johannes Ede qui prius fuit electus ad officium vicecomitatus illud refutavit. Et adiudicatum est per Concilium predictum quod idem Johannes Ede solvet pro fine xx li. pro obstinencia sua refutando officium predictum. Et quod eciam idem Johannes sit excludatus¹⁵ exoneratus et dismissus a Concilio predicto pro tempore presenti. Ita tamen quod non obstante solutione dicte finis licitum erit dicto maiori et communi Concilio imposterum pro tempore existente predictum Johannem Ede in Concilium predictum revocare cum eis videbitur oportunum pro communi profituo ville antedicte.

[*In the margin Voyd On the right Fyne* for refusing the office of sheriff]

Et eciam adiudicatum est per omnes probos viros Concilii ville

¹⁵ Properly: exclusus.

predicte quod Ricardus Gardener pro eo quod ipse refutavit gerere Officium vicecomitatus Eidem ipso per totam vitam suam sit exonertus et dismissus a Concilio predicto et quod solvet pro fine ad usum Eandem ville predicte x li.

[*In the margin* Voide.]

It is also ordeyned by the whole house this present daye that no carte nor wayne comyng hereafter into this towne of Bristowe with tymbre for buylding or with wudd for fuell shall pay any maner of dutie for whelege. Eexcepte oonly cartes or waynes as bring fuell for bakers bruers or dyers or with tymbre to hoopers and other craftes men concernyng their craftes.

[*In the margin* Welage. *Struck through* To be considered. To continue.]

TEMPORE JOHANNIS ELYOT MAIORIS
VILLE BRISTOLLIE ANNO REGNI
REGIS HENRICI OCTAVI IIIJ ET XIXO
DIE JULII.

The whole house have graunted the hospitall and house of Saynt Jones¹⁶ to Mr. Richade Bromfelde vycar of Alhalloues the day and yere above wrytten.

[*In the margin* Voyd.]

TEMPORE WILLIAMII BEDFORD
MAIORIS BRISTOLLIE ANNO REGNI
REGIS HENRICI OCTAVI QUINTO

Mr. Ludowicus Predithe electus est ad Officium Senescalli Admirallitatis Bristollie cum feodo xl s. extra cameram annatim solvendo.

[*In the margin* Voyde.]

Folio 4v TEMPORE ROBERTI THORNE
MAIORIS VILLE BRISTOLLIE ANNO
REGNI REGIS HENRICI OCTAVI VJTO

The office of Waterbaylye ¹⁷ is graunted to Willyam Walker plomer condycyonally that he shall sufficiently kepe the condit of the Key pipe as he did before, taking nothing for his labor of any olde werke for whiche he had yerely before tyme xl s. And also he shall bere yerely to the Chambre for the same office – xiiij s. iiij d.

[*In the margin* Waterbayly. Voyd.]

Also it is agreed that John Tomson Gayler of Newgate shall have yerely of the Shriffes a wynter gowne of the townes lyverey, and xiiij s. iiij d. for his somer gowne if he geve due attendaunce to his office.

[*In the margin* Gaylor. Voyd.]

Also it is agreed that from hensforthe the Shriffes of Bristowe shall kepe but oone drynking the Cristmas weke whiche shalbe kepte on Newyeres daye.

[*In the margin* Drynking in Xmas. Voyde.]

Also the office of Meter of Clothe is graunted to John Belcher alias Rokes.

¹⁶ St. John's.

¹⁷ The office of Water Bailiff was more important than this ordinance implies. See J.W. Sherborne: *The Port of Bristol in the Middle Ages*, Bristol Branch of the Historical Association, 1965, pp. 19–20.

[*In the margin* Meter of Cloth. Voyde.]

Also the revercion of the office of Gaylor after John Thomsons days is graunted to Thomas Vaughan, he to have the same when it fallethe with lyke condicion as the said Thomson hathe it.

[*In the margin* Revercion of the office of gaoler. Voyde.]

Also that all profettes fynes and commodities whiche belongethe to the Admyraltie shall apperteyne to the Chambre of Bristowe.

[*In the margin* Profites and fynes of thadmyralty to the Chambre. To contynewe.]

Certeyn ordynaunces made by Roberte Thorne Mayor of the towne of Bristowe and his bretherne thaldermen Shriffes and Comon Councell of the same towne for the comon wele of the burgeises there the vijth day of Decembre in the yere above wrytten:

Where as tyme owte of mind it hath byn always used and accustomed within this towne of Bristowe that every burgeis of the same towne hathe hadd such fredom and liberties to stande and abide in sure and safegarde within his owne dwelling house without any arrest troble or molestacion of his bodye or attachment of his goods to be in any wise made or *Folio 5* don by any officer within the same his hourse byforce of any accion or accyons sewed or attempted agaynst hym within any of the Kinges courttes here, or by vertue of any wrytte sued against hym in any of the Kinges courttes at Westminster. In consyderacyon wherof and for the restfulness and comfortt of all the burgeises of this towne that now be or hereafter shalbe, and for supportacion of the same libertie and fredom to be always hereafter used contynued and frequented in lyke maner as it hathe byn used in tymes past, my masters the Mayor Aldremen Shriffes and Comon Councell have therefore ordeyned enacted and commaunded that no officer of this towne presume fromhensfurthe to entre into the dwelling house of any suche burgeys to arrest the person of the same burgeys or of any other burgeys. Nor to make any attachment of any of his goods beyng within his house of any suche burgeys contrary to the said custom before used, onlesse then it be within open hostrye, taverne, a comon alehouse, or a barbers shopp into whiche open houses and none other it shalbe lefull to every officer of this towne with sufficyent aucthorytie to enter, and there to execute his office in good and lawfull manner, this present ordynaunce in any thing notwithstanding. Provided always that the burgeises dwelling in any suche houses with their proper goods may always stand and abyde in lyke sure and safegarde within the same open houses without any arrest, troble, vexacion or attachment there to be don by any of the said officers as all other burgeises doo within their houses. And if it shall happen hereafter that any person or goods so arrested or attached with strong hande be rescued and taken awaye from the possession of the same officer contrary to the Kings laws, and that the same person so arrested flee and escape from the saide officer into his owne dwelling house, or into the house of any other burgeys of this towne or that the goods so attached and rescued be conveyed and brought into the house of any burgeys from the possession of the said officer, that then it shalbe lewfull to the same

officer, if he may conveniently do it without damages, to followe his prisoner or the said goods *Folio 5v* so rescued and taken from hym into the house of that burgeys where the same person or goods shall then be and there to take and bring owte with hym the same his persones or the said goods so rescued from hym, this present ordynance in eny wise not withstanding. And that no officer of this towne presume from hensfurthe to do contrary to this present ordynance and commaundement upon payne of imprisoment, and to be discharged of his office forever.

[*In the margin on Folio 4v* Libertyes for areste and syuyng of wryttes. *Struck through:* To be consydered. *In the margin on Folio 5* The statute and comission of bankroutes is a supersede as of this ordinance. Repealed the vijth June 1608 by a general consent of the whole house.]

Furthermore the said Mayor Aldermen Shriffs and Comen Councell considering the great deceipte and fraude that hathe long tyme byn don and yet dayly is don unto the Kinges subjectes here within this towne by occasion of untrue meting and measuring of clothes wullyn and lynnyn solde within the same towne have therfore ordeyned and enacted that always from hensfurthe a common meter of cloth shalbe hadd to mete and measure almaner of clothe aswell wullen as lynnyn brought to this towne to be solde, which common meter shalbe sworne yerely upon the holy Evangeliste of God to mete and measure almaner of clothe as well wullen as lynnyn brought to the Backe Hall¹⁸ to be solde trulie and indifferente aswell for the byer as for the seller without any favor or parcialitie to be showed by hym to any parson. And that every straunger brynging any manner of clothe of this towne to be solde bring the same cloth to the Back Hall and there to make sale therof. And in none other place upon payne of forfyture of the same clothe. The said comon meter to take for his labour for the meting of every whole pece of clothe wullen or lynnyn ob. and for twoo half peces ob. of the byer of the same clothe. And that no burgeys of this towne fromhensfurthe presume to bye any manner of clothe or other merchaundise of a straunger in any other place within this towne but oonlie in the said Backe Hall there to be meten and measured by thands of the said comon meter upon payne forfayte for every pece otherwise boughte and meten xx d. to thuse of the Chamber of this towne. And that no burgeys of this towne presume fromhensfurthe to bring any straunger into the said Back Hall to have a sight of any merchaundise there being to be solde upon payne that every burgeis doying contrary to this ordynance shall forfait x s. half to the Shriffs and halfe to the Chambre, nor that any burgeis suffer any clothe to be solde within his howse upon payne of vj s. viij d.

[*In the margin* For metering of clothe. Repealed the 6th day of

¹⁸ The Back Hall, also known as Spicers Hall, was a mansion on the Back, near Bristol Bridge, which had belonged to the fifteenth century merchant, Robert Sturmy. All goods imported by a stranger not a burgess had to be brought here before being sold.

September 1608 by a generall consente. Cloth to be sold shalbe brought to Backe Haull. *Struck through* To be considered.]

Folio 6 It is also ordeyned by the whole house that alwayes fromhensfurthe the Shriffes of Bristowe shall chuse to be their undershriffe oon of their officers of the same towne, that is to say, the Towneclerke, the Stewarde or the Common Attorney and none other. And that the same officer so chosen and admytted by the said Shriffes for the tyme beyng to be undershriffe shall take for his fee oonly xx s. with the advauntage of his office and to be bounde to save harmeles the Shriffes in all thinges belonging to that office. And that fromhensfurthe none be admytted into the said office but oon of the said iij officers.

[*In the margin* For chusing the undershreeve. To continewe.]

[*In the margin on the right* For mackynge of the undershreff.

Struck through To be considered.]

Item it is ordeyned that no burgeys of this towne shall fromhensfurthe occupie thoffice of a broker of any merchaundise within the same towne upon payne of imprisoment at the first defalte after the Mayors discrecyon and after that for every defalte xx s. to thuse of the Chambre, or els to be dyscomoned forever.

[*In the margin* Repealed.]

TEMPORE ROGERI DAWES MAIORIS
VILLE BRISTOLLIE ANNO REGNI
REGIS HENRICI OCTAVI SEPTIMO

It is ordeyned that every of my masters of the Councell whiche hathe borne thoffice of a Mayor or a Shriffe that will not accompany the Mayor on the eves of Saynt John Baptiste and Saint Peter in his riding aboute the towne shall forfeit and pay to thuse of the Chambre vj s.viii d., excepte he can make a true and a lawful excuse to the contrary.

[*In the margin* Repealed. *In the margin on right* To accompany the Mayor at St. John and St. Peters nygh.]

Item every of the said maisters whiche hathe borne thoffice of a mayor whiche absentethe hymselfe from any common assemble for the worshipp of the towne shall paye to thuse of the Chambre xl d., and every of that hathe byn Shryff xx d. as at Corpus Christi procession, Saynt George procession, alhallou day, Saynt James day, Saint Laurence day, Trynyty Sonday and Mondaye and Mighelmas day. And he that faileth at the Dynner¹⁹ of the Chappell of the bridge to pay to the proktors xij d. whether he be in towne or nott.

[*In the margin* Repealed. *In the margin on right* To accupany the Mayor at sundry tymes.]

Folio 6v TEMPORE JOHANNIS VAUGHAN
MAIORIS VILLE BRISTOLLIE ANNO
REGNI REGIS HENRICI OCTAVI
OCTAVO

Memorandum that it is graunted and permysed by all the house

¹⁹ The word 'Dynner' is uncertain. However, Robert Ricart, *op. cit.*, p. 74 mentions a dinner held at the election of the new mayor on Michaelmas Day.

that John Drewys shall take upon hym thoffice of Shriffe this yere and he shall have towards his charges of the same office xx li. whiche was assessed for a fyne upon Gilbert Cogan bicause he refused the same office.
[*In the margin* Fyne for refewsyng to be sherev. Voyed.]

TEMPORE JOHANNIS SAYE MAIORIS
VILLE BRISTOLLIE ANNO REGNI
REGIS HENRICI OCTAVI NONO

It is ordeyned by the whole house that no comon bruer of this towne after the feest of Saynt Mighell tharchangell nexte commyng put any hopps into suche ale as they shall brue for this towne upon payne that every bruer doyng contrary shall forfeit at every defalte xl s. to be devidid oon half therof to the Chambre and the other half to the Shriffe for the tyme beyng. And Mr. Drewes and Mr. Ellyott shall have the oversight of the bruers this yere and so yerely twoo newe overseers to be chosen.

[*In the margin* No hoppes to [be] pute in the alle by the comen brewers. Repealed.]

TEMPORE JOHANNIS EDWARDES
MAIORIS VILLE BRISTOLLIE ANNO
REGNI REGIS HENRICI OCTAVI
DECIMO

It is ordeyned by the Councell that no burgeys of this towne presume from hensfurthe to bye any merchandise or other goods of any straungers commyng to this towne by water or by londe till such tyme as the same merchaundise or other goodes be first brought unto the Backe Hall of this towne; excepte hake, hering white and redd and almaner of fyshe, excepte samon, upon payne that he that will offende and by any such merchundise or other goods contrary to this present ordynance shall forfeit and paye thise sommes hereafter following, that is to say, for every xx li. worthe of goods v li., and if it be under xx li. to forfeit after that rate the oon half to the maior and the other half to the Chambre.

[*In the margin* For bying of marchandise. Repealed.]

Item it is condecended by all the house that the Chambre shall bere almaner of charges for the subdewing of the malicyous *Folio 7* purpose of Willyam Dale Shriffe and his confederates and, if the Chambre will not suffice, then every man to lende to the Chambre after his power for the tyme and to be paid agayne assone as the Chambre maye be able.²⁰

Item it is appointed that Mr. Thorne and Harry Kemys Stewarde shall ride upp this next terme to solicyte the said matter at the Chambres coste.

Item thise vj persons undernamed be chosen to be assistent and helping to the Mayor in the ordering of the ponyshement of all those as been confederates unto Willyam Dale Shriffe

John Harrys

John Shipman

Richarde Abingdon

John Wyllyams

John Ware

John Drewes

²⁰ See case in Court of Star Chamber; also Elizabeth Ralph, *The Great White Book of Bristol*, *op. cit.*, pp. 72–85.

[*In the margin against each of the three items* Voyed
In the margin on right, bracketed against all three items Conserving
the sewte agenst Mr. Dalle.]

TEMPORE JOHANNIS WYLLYAMS
MAIORIS VILLE BRISTOLLIE ANNO
REGNI REGIS HENRICI OCTAVI
UNDECIMO. ANNO 1519 TO ANNO 1606
IS 85 YEARS.²¹

It is past by all the house that the Mayor shall yerely have of the
Chambreleyn as of the rentes of this towne xl li. to be paid quarterly x
li.

[*In the margin* To lend the Mayor 40 li. To contynewe.]

Item it commaunded that no baker of this towne do presume to bye
any manner of corne within x myles of this towne upon payne to
forfaite at every tyme dylie proved vj s. viij d.

[*In the margin* To contynewe.]

Item it is commaunded that no baker of this towne doo presume to
bye ingrose within the markett of this towne or in any other place in
the countrey adjoynnyng any rye or mestlynne²² whiche they have
used to doo before this tyme and to bake it with their branne, making
therof unholosom bredde and letting the said corne comme to the
Kinges markett here and causing the price of corne to be increased by
reason of their regrating to the great hurte of the Comons. And that
no bakers wife do presume to goo into the said markett to bye any
corne upon payne that the baker or his wife offending this comaun-
dement to forfeit at every defalte vj s. viij d.

[*In the margin* To contynewe. *In the margin on right* Backers to by no
corne within x mylles of the towyn nor in the markett.]

Folio 7v Also it is commaunded that no baker of this towne doo
presume fromhensfurthe to sende or conveye any quantitie of whete
or brede whyte or wheten unto Wales or into any other place in the
contrey without lycence of the Mayor of this towne for the tyme
beyng, but that every of the same bakers doo provide and see that
they have sufficient stuffe of bred aswell whyte as wheten bothe in
their houses and in their hucksters houses to serve the comons of this
towne at all houres uppon payne of forfayture at every defalte xx s.
and ymprisoment of his bodye that so is founde defective.

[*In the margin* The backers to sell no brede to Walles excepte the
towyn be well provided. Voyed.]

Item that no baker of the contrey presume from hensfurthe to
bring to this towne any bredde made of rye or other corne but oonlie
of whete upon payne of forfature of the same bred.

[*In the margin* Bakers. To contynewe.]

Item it is ordeyned that none of the common ale bruers of this
towne do fromhensfurthe presume to brue any bere or any doble ale
or any ale of j d. ob. the gallon to be sold within this towne upon
payne of xl d.

²¹ Anno 1519 . . . 85 yeres is in another hand. 1519 to 1606 is 87 years, not 85.

²² Mestlynne = maslin, mixed grain, especially rye mixed with wheat.

[*In the margin* Consernyng brewers. Repealed.]

[*In the margin on right* Consernyng brewers. Repealed.]

Item forasmuche that from hensfurthe an ale conner be ordeyned and appoynted by the Mayor and his bretherne the Aldermen, which aleconner every shifting daye in the yere shall boldely goo into the houses of the said common bruers before the shifting of every of their ale. And there shall taste the same and, if he fynde it good and holsom for mans body, so to commende it. And if he fynd it contrary and unlawfull for the kinges people, then he to commaunde the same bruer not to make any sale or utterance therof unto the kinges subjettes. And that every common bruer do obey the said ale conner in executing of his office and to make no resistance lett nor ympedymment against hym upon payne of vj s. viij d. And every maior to electe this officer – quere.²³

[*In the margin* Ale conners. To contynewe.]

Item it is commaunded and ordeyned that none of the comon bruers do shifte any of their ale in the wynter tyme betwixte Alhallow tide and Candelmas before the houre of v in the mornynge, and in the somer tyme betwyne Candelmas and Alhallou tide before the houre of iiij in the mornynge upon payne of xx s.

[*In the margin* To contynewe.]

Folio 8 TEMPORE JOHANNIS SHIPMAN
MAIORIS VILLE BRISTOLLIE ANNO
REGNI REGIS HENRICI OCTAVI
QUARTODECIMO.²⁴

Thomas Jubbess electus est Recordator ville Bristollie sub ista condicione quod ipse sit personaliter presens apud Westmonasterium ad quemlibet terminorum subscriptorum videlicet ad terminos hillarij Pasche Trinitatis et sancti Michaelis archiangeli sumptibus suis propriis et expensis pro saniore expedicione istius ville et causarum eiusdem capiendis pro feodo suo xx ti marcas ad iiijor anni terminos equis porciobibus solvendas.

[*In the margin* Voyed. *In the margin on right* The eleccion of the Recorder with condishions and fee.]

Item it is ordeyned that no comon bruer of this towne shall brue any doble ale or bere to thentent to retayle and sell the same agayne to any person within this towne or without upon payne to forfeit at the first defalte xl s. and at the seconde defalte ympersomment and there to remayne untill the said xl s. be well and trulie paid.

[*In the margin* To continewe. *In the margin on right* For brewyng of dobull ale or bere.]

TEMPORE WILLELMI WOSELEY
MAIORIS VILLE BRISTOLLIE ANNO
REGNI REGIS HENRICI OCTAVI XIIIJ.

²³ And every . . . quere added in a different hand.

²⁴ John Shipman and William Woseley are both given in this ordinance book as being Mayor in 14 Henry VIII, which runs from 22nd April 1522 to 21st April 1523. Mayors were elected in September, so presumably the entry for John Shipman can be dated 1522.

Furthermore it is ordened that no burgeys of this towne shall receve into his house the goods or merchaundise of any straunger, aswell London as of the parties of Irlonde or of any other place, but that the same goods or merchaundises be brought unto the Backe Hall of this towne there to be openlie putt to sale upon payne of discomonyng of every suche burgeis so doying contrary, or payinge a good fyne bey order of the Mayor and Aldermen.²⁵

[*In the margin To contynewe. In the margin on right* No goods to be received by a burges of a strangers into his house.]

Item it is ordeyned enacted and agreed by the whole councell that the profett and advauntage of the pentice newe made in Wyne Strete in Bristowe by the Chambre of the same for mele to be weyed there shall oonly be converted turned and ymployed at all tymes hereafter to the use of the same Chambre, without any interupcion of the Shrifves of this towne of Bristowe for the tyme beyng.

[*In the margin Voyd. In the margin on right and partly illegible* The dewty of the melle . . . the . . .]

Folio 8v TEMPORE RICARDI ABYNGDON
MAIORIS VILLE BRISTOLLIE ANNO
REGIS HENRICI OCTAVI
DECIMO SEPTIMO.

It is condecended and agreed that Thomas Whyte, late of Coven-tree Mayor, shalbe burgeys of this towne of Bristowe. And that he shall paie for his fredom xxti poundes and furthermore it is agreed that the said Thomas Whyte shall not be Shrifve of this towne nother bere the charge therof. And he shall pay to the Chambre for that discharge xxti poundes.

[*In the margin Voyed.*]

Item where the Common Councell before this tyme at the meke peticion and request of John Tilling of Sherehampton in the Countie of Glouc. maryner was geven and graunted to the same John Tylling thoffice of towyng and lodemanshipp of all shippes barges and ballingars to be in the most substanciall manner conveyed and brought from the porte of the said towne called Kingrode unto Hungrode or to the Key of the said towne, and from the same Key unto Hungrode or Kingrode forsaid, to have and to hold the same office unto the same John and to his sufficient deputie or deputies aslong as it shalbe thought by the Mayor and Common Councell of the said towne for the tyme being that the same John shall demeane hymselfe well in the same office, taking all suche fees and somes of money for the exercising of the same office as of old tyme hathe byn used and accustomed. It is nowe enacted by the said Mayor and Councell that forasmuche as it is thought by the said Mayor, Aldremen and Comon Councell, togeders with Mr. Recorder in the same Councell House, that the fornamed John Tilling hath mysdemeaned hymselfe in the said office contrary and against the forme and tenor of this graunt as by due reporte and proves evidentlye it was showed then and there before the same Mayor, Aldermen and

²⁵ Or paying . . . and Aldermen added in a fainter ink but same hand.

Comon Councell by good deliberation with their whole assent, consent and full agreement have utterlie avoyded and adnulled the said graunt of the said office abovesaid. And therefore and from the same have also discharged and exonerated the same John Tylling, his depute and deputies for ever.

[*In the margin* The eleccion and discharg of the pilot for brynging shippes in and owit from Kyngrode to Hungrode. Voyed.]

Folio 9 TEMPORE THOME BROKE MAIORIS
VILLE BRISTOLLIE ANNO REGNI
REGIS HENRICI OCTAVI DECIMO
OCTAVO.

It is agreed by the Councell that if any burgeys of this towne make any bargayne for wine, wode, iron, oyle or any other merchaundises crossing over the Spaynyshe See and commyng within the porte of Bristowe or within any other place within the libertie of Bristowe, before it be put alond and sellered in the Backhall or in any other seller by the appoyntment of the master of the Backhall,²⁶ and that openlie proved before the Mayor of Bristowe for the tyme being and iiij of his bretherne, that then the same bargayne so made shalbe utterly voyde and of none effecte. And yet neverthelesse the burgeys so making the said bargayne shall forfayt at every tyme xl s. to be paid to the Chambreleyn of Bristowe for the tyme beyng. Or otherwise it is agreed by this present Councell, that the Mayor of Bristowe for the tyme beyng shall commytt the said burgeys so offending unto the Kinges gaile of Newgate, there to remayne untill he trulie content and paye the said xl s. to the fornamed Chambrleyn, or putt in the same Chambreleyn sufficient suertie for the payment therof. Morover it is agreed that if the Mayor of Bristowe for the tyme being do not execute this present acte at every suche tyme as suche a burgeys as above is specified do offende in maner and forme aforsaid, that then the Mayor of Bristowe for the tyme beyng shall paye to the Chambrlen for the tyme being xl s. in the name of a fyne, and so as often and when as suche a case shall requyer forever, any former Acte to the contrary notwithstanding.²⁷

[*In the margin* To contynewe. *Struck through* To be repealed. *In the margin on right* For bying of marchaundise.]

Item it is agreed by this present Councell that aswell every burgeys as every stranger shall conveye wudd and other cariages with his waynes and horses by Redclyff Gate and Temple Gate in the way called Portt Walles of Bristowe under the Conditt of Saint Thomas Strete there and no farder. And if any burgeys or straunger presume to doo the contrary, that then he shall pay to the Chambreleyn to thuse of the towne for every defalte xx s.²⁸

[*In the margin and struck through* Repealed.]

Item it is agreed that the said burgeyses and strangers shall conveye

²⁶ *Before it be . . . master of the Backhall* interlined in darker ink but same hand.

²⁷ *Any former . . . notwithstanding* added in different ink but same hand.

²⁸ This item and the two following would seem to be attempts to keep heavy wheeled traffic away from the centre of the town.

there said wudd and cariages by Laffordes Gate unto Seynt Peters Crosse and to Lewens Mede, and into none other place upon the said payne.

[*In the margin* To contynew.]

Item that noo waynes with salte comm a thisside the whiche in Wynestrete upon payne of vj s. viij d.

[*In the margin* Voyed. *In the margin and bracketed against last three items* Places apontyd for wayns to discharge wares.]

Folio 9v TEMPORE WILLELMI JAY MAIORIS

ANNO REGNI REGIS EDWARDS SEXTI

QUARTO.

Sacramentum de Brokers. Ye shalbe good and true to the king our sovereign lorde and to his heirs and successors kinges of Englonde, and also to the Mayor and Comynaltie of this cite of Bristowe. And ye shalbe true and indifferent betwyne marchaunt and marchaunt, and partie and partie, with whome ye shall have any thing to do, concernyng your office of brokerage, ye shall not concele nor colour any foryner or strangers goodes, that is to say ye shall not make any bargayne betwyne stranger and stranger, nor ye shall not in any wise suffer any bargayne or bargaynes to passe betwyne stranger and strangers within the precynct and jurisdiction of this cite of Bristowe, but as sone as ye shall have any knowlege therof, ye shall declare the same to Mr. Mayor for the tyme being. Also ye shall well and trulie regester and wrytt, in a faire booke, every bargayne, and the names of the parties, the daie, the price and the quantitie of all the marchandise and wares, that shall passe throughe any of your handes by reason of your office, betwyne burgeis and stranger. And if any burgeis of this cite go abowte to engrose any great bargayne of any kinde of marchandise, wares, or goodes, into his owne handes, ye shall first know Mr. Maiors pleasure therin, before ye conclude the same bargayne. And this with all other thinges belonging to your office ye shall well and trulie do, during the tyme that ye shall contynue in the same so helpe you God.

[*In the margin* The othe and p . . . ers.²⁹ To be considered.]

Folio 10 Ordinacio de Brokers. A rate what fees the brokers shall take for executyng of their office. In primis of every bargayne that they or any of them shall make betwyne a burgeis and a stranger, or foryner, the broker shall take of every suche stranger or foryner j d. ob. upon every pounce of the same bargayne, and of a burgeis of the cite ob. upon every pounce and not above.

[*In the margin* Repealed.]

Item if a burgeis of this cite do bargayne with a stranger or foryner without the broker for any kynde of marchandise or wares that shalbe discharged at this porte of Bristoll that crosse the sees, the said burgeis shall first geve knowlege therof to oon of the brokers, before he receve the same marchandise or wares, to thentent that the broker may regester the same bargayne in his booke. And if the said burgeis do not geve any suche knowlege to oon of the brokers, he shall forfeit

²⁹ Illegible.

and pay for every pounce of that bargayne xij d., wherof half to be to the Chambre and thother half to the brokers. And for every such bargayne that any burgeis shall make without the broker, the burgeis shall pay no brokerage, but yet the stranger in that case shall pay j d. ob. upon every li.

[*In the margin Repealed.*]

Item if the broker do make any bargayne betwyne burgeis and burgeis, then the broker to take of them for his labour ij d. upon every li. of the same bargayne, (that is to say) a peny of the byer and a peny of the seller.

[*In the margin Repealed.*]

Item all such fees, profettes and advantages as shall come or growe to the brokers by reason of their office, shalbe equally and indifferently devidid betwyne them, monethely as it shall appere by their bookes. And if any of the said brokers (to thentent to deceve his fellowes) do omytt and leve owte any bargayne and *Folio 10v* do not well and truly wrytt and register the same in his booke as is aforesaid, and that being duly approved before Mr. Mayor for the tyme being, that then he so offending shalbe clerely dysmyssed and putt owte of his office of brokershippe, and also shall suffer ymprysoment of his bodie at the discrecion of Mr. Mayor for the tyme being.

[*In the margin Repealed.*]

TEMPORE PREDICTI WILLELMI JAY
MAIORIS ANNO REGNI REGIS E. VJTI
QUARTO.

The ordynance for Hungrode. Proclamacyons devysed and made for the preservacion and meynenance and also for the good order of the porte of Hungrode.

In primis Mr. Mayor of the cytye of Bristowe and the Justices of the same, being Commyssoners of the Admiraltie of the said cite sufficientlie auctorised, do straightlie charge and commaunde all owners of shippes and all maisters and maryners and all other person and persons whatsoever they be, that they and every of them fromhensforthe be obedyent to the waterbayly of Bristowe and to the oversight of the rode called Hungrode, concernyng the removing and placyng of their shippes, that shall happen to aryve within the same rode, and not to resist, deny or withstande, the said waterbayly or pilates or any of them in executing their office for the placyng, removing and movyng of the said shippes (that is to say, when a great shipp comethe laden with any kinde *Folio 11* of marchandise or wares, then to remove a smaller vessell by their discrecion for placing and moving of the greter shipp) upon payne to forfait any pay for every tyme so offending being duly approved before the said mayor, the somm of oon hundred dukkettes, after v s. a pece, of Englishe mony, wherof iiij^{xx} dukkettes to be paid to the Chambre of Bristoll, and thother xxti dokkettes to the said waterbayly and pilates for the presenting therof.

[*In the margin To consider and mytegat the fine.*]

Item it is farder commaunded and ordeyned by the said Mayor and Justices, that no maister of any shippe nor maryner, nor any other

person whatsoever he be, do move their ankers, in any other place of the said rode called Hungrode, but where the said waterbayly or pilates or oon of them, shall appoynt, and also that the said Master and maryners, do putt a pole or lugg at every of the same ankers, for a marke and signe to all vesselles, passing throughe the said rode, upon payne to lose for every defalte at every tyde duly proved by the said pilates, v s. wherof half to be to the Chambre and thother half to the said officers for presenting therof.

[*In the margin* For laing owt of anckares. To be considered and mended. Penall.]

Item it is farther ordeyned and commaunded by the said Mayor and Justices, that no person or persons whatsoever he or they be do presume fromhensforthe to feche or take any sande within the precyncte of the said rode of Hungrode for the ballste of any shippe, hulke, or other vessell upon payne to forfait and lose for every defalte duly approved before the said Mayor xxti dokkettes, wherof half to be to the Chambre and thother half to hym or them that do present it.

[*In the margin* For ballasting with saunde. To be considered and mended. Penall.]

Folio 11v Item it is ordeyned and commaunded by the said Mayor and Justices that no person nor persons whatsoever he or they be, do presume fromhensforthe to take any sande for ballaste of any shippe or other vessell being in the said rode but oonly in suche places where the said waterbayly and pilates or oon of them shall lymytt and appoynt upon payne to forfait and lose for every ton of sande that shalbe so taken contrary to this article the somm of iiij d. to be devided as it is aforesaid, (that is to say) half to the Chambre and theother half to hym or them that do present it with due profes, and with licence and appoyntment of the said pilates or oon of them to pay to the Chambre for every ton of sande so taken for ballast j d. and also to agree with the lighterman for his labor.

[*In the margin* Wher to be appoynted to take ballast and what shalbe payde for the same. To be considered.]

Item it is ordeyned and commaunded by the said Mayor and Justices that no person nor persons whatsoever he or they be do fromhensforthe cast the said sand owte of the lighter or bote into any shippe or vessell within the said rode, excepte there be a saile putt betwyne the shippe and the boote so that none fall into the water upon payne to forfait for every defalte duly proved a iiijor dokkettes half to the Chambre and half to the presenters.

[*In the margin* The order of recevyng and dellyvering saund aboard any shipp. Penall. To contynewe.]

Item it is ordeyned and commaunded that no owner of shipp, maister or maryner do fromhensforthe take any pilate to bring in or owte their shippes but suche pilates of Sherehampton as be appoynted for the same upon payne to forfait and lose for every shipp so brought in or owte contrary to this article the som of xxti dukkettes, wherof half to the Chambre and thother half to the pilates, provided alwaies that it shalbe lawfull to all maisters of shippes apperteynyng to this

citie to bring in their owners shippes (if they will take the charge therof upon them) this proclamacion notwithstanding.

[*In the margin* Nota no pilote to bring in shipp but shuch as be appoynted. Penall. To be consydered and the pilot bownd to the owner in lieke conditions.]

The Rate of Canage

Item of every shippe from l ton to C ton to pay ij s.

Item of every shippe from C ton upwarde iij s. iiij d.

[*In the margin* To be repealede.]

Folio 12 TEMPORE DAVID HARRYS MAIORIS
ANNO REGNI REGIS EDWARDI SEXTI
QUARTO

Memorandum that the xvth daie of December in the iiijth yere of the reign of our sovereign lorde King Edwarde the Sixte it is agreed by all those wurshipfull men of the Councell of this citie of Bristowe whose names be underwrytten, that at the nexte defalte that can or shalbe dylie founde or approve by the moost part of the House or Councell of this citie against John Maunsell nowe keper of the Back Hall, that then the same John Maunsell shalbe putt clerely owte of the same office and house, and that Willyam Appowell, grocer, shall ymedyatly upon his departing have the said office of kepint of the said Backhall with all the comodyties, fees and advantages belonging to the same office.

[*In the margin* Voide.]

	David Harrys Mayor	William Yong
	Roger Cooke	Richard Morse
	Thomas Pacy	Richarde Watley
	William Shipman	William Pepwall
	William Chester	Thomas Launsdon
xxvj	John Smythe	John Gurneye
	John Spring	Roger Jones
	William Pikes	Richarde Davis
	Roger Mylward	John Welles
	Thomas Seward	Thomas Joacham
	John Brampton	William Tyndale
	John Northall	John Mathes
	Rowland Cowper	Edward Tynnte

Folio 12v TEMPORE ROGERI COOKE MAIORIS
ANNO REGNI REGIS EDWARDI SEXTI
SEXTO

Memorandum that the xvth daye of September in the syxte yere of the reigne of our sovereigne lorde Kinge Edwarde the Sixte it is agrede and determed by all the hole Counsell of the citie of Bristowe whose names hereafter do followe that William Appowell of the same citie, grocer, shall have thoffice of keypyng the Backe Haule in Bristoll with all fees and advantages thereunto belonginge duringe so longe tyme as it shall pleas the Mayor and Councell of this citie and as he shall well behave hymselfe in the same office, which

office is at this point in the occupacion of John Maunsell, which Johne Maunsell, at the special request and desire of the sayde Mayor and his brethern uppon sertayne consideracions them moving, hathe surrendred, resyned and geven upp to thandes of the said Mayor and his brethern uppon a yerely pension of tenn poundes to be paid quarterlye by the saide William Appowell to the saide John Mauncell by evin porcions duringe the liffe of the saide John Maunsell, iff the saide William Appowell do so longe live and continewe in the saide office. And also that the saide William Appowell shall paye tenn poundes by the yere to the Chamber of Bristoll to be paid well and trulie quarterlie for the rent of the saide Backhaule. And if the said rent of xx li. by the yere, that is to say, x li. to the Chamber and x li. to the saide John Maunsell be not well and trulie paid quarterlie as is aforesaid, orels at the fardest within one monethe next after every quarter if it be asked and demaunded at the saide house, that then the saide William Appowell to forfeit and lose his sayde office clerely and to be utterlie expelled and put frome the same. And that the saide John Maunsell shall ymediatlie enter thereinto in like manner and forme as he hade it before the date hereof this graunt in any thinge notwithe standinge. And so to continewe therein at the will and pleasure of the sayde Mayor and Counsell.

<i>Folio</i> 13	Roger Cooke	Mayor	William Sprat
	Thomas Pacye		Richard Mersse
	William Chester		Richard Watley
	John Smythe		Robert Sexy
	William Jaye		William Ballarde
	John Springe		William Pepwall
	Robert Adams		Frauncis Codrington
	William Carye		Thomas Launcedon
	David Harrys		John Gerney
	William Jones		Roger Jones
	Nicholas Williams		William Carr
	John Drewes		Richard Davis
	John Jervis		Thomas Joachim
	William Kelke		Thomas Harris
	John Brampton		William Tyndall
	John Northall		Edward Tynt
	Richard Prynne		Edward Prynn
	Rowlande Cowper		John Stones
	William Rowley		Roger Myller
	William Younge		Thomas Shewarde
			Thomas Tyson
			Anthonye Stanbanck
			John Wyllye

[*In the margin* William Appowell to have the Backe Haule. Voyed.]

Item it is further agrede and determined by all the masters of this wurshippfull citie in their Councell House gathered together that if anye of the Counsell of the saide citie do at any tyme hereafter sue to the Kinges Majestie or to any of his most honorable Councell for anye office that is of the cities graunt or gifte, that then he shalbe clerelye

dismissed aswell from the Housse as frome the liberties of this citie.
[In the margin That none secke for any office of the townnes but of the Mayor and Councell. To contynewe.]

Memorandum that the xvth daie of September in the yere above written John Willy was elected and chosen by the right wurshipfull the masters of the Councell before named to be one of the Councell of this said citie, and also to be Chambrelen of the same citie. And further it is condescended and agreed by all the said Councell that the said John Willy shall not be chosen nor compelled to be Shriffe of the said citie during the tyme that he shall use and contynue in the said office of Chambreleyn unless he of his fre will assent thereunto.

[In the margin John Willy admytted to be one of the Councell. Voyde.]

Folio 13v Memorandum that the xv day of Decembre in the syxte yere off the reigne of our soveraigne lorde Kinge Edwarde the Sixte it is agreed by all those wurshipfull men of the Councell of this cytie of Brystowe whose names ys before written.³⁰

[In the margin Voide.]

Item hit is farther condyssended concorded and agreed at this general Councell by all them hoys names by fore expressed excepted John Spring and William Rowley, that where John Mauncell hathe nowe butt x li. that the said William Appowell shall gyve and paye yerely duringe the lyve of the said William Appowell to the said John Mauncell xl s. appon lyke condicion as aforesaid.

[In the margin Voide.]

Item also that all suche wares or merchaundye as shall be bawght into the said Hall after the feaste of the byrthe of our Lorde God nexte coming that the said William Appowell shall have the benifite and profytt of the same and not the said John Mauncell.

[In the margin Voide.]

Item the said William Appowell shall fynde good and sufficient surtes to save and kepe harmeles the Chambre of the citie of Bristowe for all such wares or merchundise that be layd there from tyme to tyme in the said Backe Hall.

[In the margin Voide.]

Item that yf hit happen the said William Appowell to forfeit the said office by any manner of meane dulye provyd by the said Councell or the most parte of them, then the said William Appowell to make no farther sute to the Kinges Counsell for the same and then the said William to be discharged of the howsse called the Backe Hall or of his burgeschippe and the said Johne Mauncell to have his said office ayeine in lyke case as afore said.

[In the margin Voide.]

TEMPORE JOHANNIS SMYTHE
 MAIORIS CIVITATIS BRISTOLLIE
 ANNIS REGNORUM REGIS ET REGINE
 PHILIPPI ET MARIE PRIMO ET
 SECUNDO

³⁰ This would appear to be an unfinished entry, possibly an error by the copyist.

Memorandum that the laste daye of May in the yeres above written it was decreed and ordeyned by all the wurshipfull persons of the Councell of this cite of Bristowe whose names hereafter followe that from hensforth no parson or parsons shalbe elected or chosen Towneclerke or Stewarde of the Courte of the Tolsey of this said cite unless he or they have been an utterbarrester of some inne of courte. [*In the margin* That no steward or towne clerke be appoynted except he hath bynne a utterbarester. To contynewe.]

Folio 14 It is also decreed and ordeyned by all the said worshipfull persons underwritten that Mr. Mawdeley nowe Towne Clerk of this cite shall have and enjoy the office and rome of the Stewarde of the Courte of the Tolsey and the fee incident to the same with all the profittes and revenues rising and growing of the same office, upon condicion that he be resident upon the same.

And it is farther ordeyned and decreed by the said wurshipfull persons that from hensforth noon shalbe elected and chosen to be Recorder of this said cite under the degree of a Bencher.

[*In the margin* No recorder to be under the degre of a benchar. To contynewe.]

John Smythe	Maior	William Pepwall
Thomas Pacy		Thomas Launsdon
William Chester		Roger Jones
William Jay		William Carre
Robert Adams		William Tindall
William Cary		Edwarde Tynte
John Northall		Edwarde Prynne
Giles White		John Stones
John Cutt		Roger Milwarde
William Kelke		Thomas Seward
John Maunceill		William Jones
William Appowell		Nicholas Williams
Richard Prynne		Thomas Tison
William Spratt		Anthony Standbank
Robert Sexcy		John Willy

TEMPORE PREDICTI JOHANNIS
SMYTH MAIORIS CIVITATIS
BRISTOLLIE PREDICTE ANNIS
REGNORUM REGIS ET REGINE
PHILIPPI ET MARIE SECUNDO ET
TERCIO

Memorandum that the xiiijth day of Septembre in the yeres abovesaid it was ordeyned and agreed by the whole consent and agrement of all and every of verte folium *Folio 14v* the wurshipfull persons of the Councell of this cite of Bristowe whose names be subscribed³¹ that no man shalbe hensforth Maior of the said cite more than twice.

[*In the margin* To be Mayor twice. To contynewe.]

³¹ No names subscribed.

TEMPORE ROBERTI SAXCYE
CIVITATIS BRISTOLLIE MAIORIS
ANNIS REGNORUM PHILIPPI ET
MARIE REGIS ET REGINE TERCIO ET
QUARTO

Memorandum that the xxvij daie of October in the yeres aforesaid it was agreed and determyned by all the wurshipfull masters of this cite whose names hereafter followe being assembled in therre comen Counseull Howse that if any person or persons of the same Counsell Howse being sufficientlie warned by one of the Maiors serjeauntes in the said Maiors name to appere in the said Councell Howse orels where by the howre of ix of the daie appointed or at any other howre lymited by the said Maior and the said person or persons do not appere in the said Councell Howse or els where at the comaundment of the same Maior at or afore the said howre of ix or at any other howre appointed shall forfeitt for every suche defaulte iij s. iiij d. to be leveid to the use of the Chamber of Bristowe. And if any Mayor for the tyme being do neglect the execucion of the said penaltie he to forfeitt at every suche defaulte xx d. to be in like sorte levied to the use of the said Chamber.

[*In the margin* For the Cowncell to apere apon warnynge of the Mayor. To contynewe.]

It ys also ordeygned and agreed by the said wurshipfull masters that the Townclark of the cite of Bristow for the tyme being shalbe alwaies a resident and abiding in this cite and shall assiste the Maior and other officers with his best counsell and *Folio* 15 advise and diligentlie execute and serve his office and not to departe owte of the said cite without the speciall license of the said Maior procured and had, accordynge to the special ordar.³² And that for one weke or more at the discrecion of the said Mayor uppon payne to loase and forfeitt his office for evermor. And it is also agreed that the said Towneclark of Bristow shall have the intelligence of this ordynance and decree betwene this and Christmas next to make hys provision accordinglie.

[*In the margin* The Townclark to be resident. To contynewe.]

It is further condiscended and agreed by the said wurshipfull masters (foasmoche as the ale bruers called the comen bruers do not brue holsome and sufficient ale) that the said comen bruers shall from hensforth brue no ale but according to the order hereafter proscribed. That is to saye, the best sort for ij d. the gallone, the second sorte at j d. the gallon and the thridd at ob. the gallon and the same to be good holsome and sufficient drinke according to the rate and price of malte. And if any of the said bruers be founde and approved to do the contrary, that then the said person so offending to be disfraunchesed and discomened for evermore, except he pay xl li. to the Chamber of Bristowe for his admission to the liberties agayne. And also that the berebruers do brue no beare above ij d. the gallon uppon the like paynes. And that the Mayor for the tyme being shall

³² *Accordynge . . . ordar* interlined.

not dispence with any suche bruer or bruers so offending without the consent and assent of the hole howse or the moost parte of them uppon payne to forfeite for every suche defaulte xxti poundes to be levied to the use of the said Chamber.

[*In the margin* For brewars of beere and alle to brewe accordinge to this accte. To be dewly considryd of.]

It is furthermore agreed by the said wurshippfull masters that no pedlar shall stande openlie in the Highe Strete or any other strete of the said citie nor verte folium *Folio* 15^v that any kinde of hucksters do from hensforth contynew in any place or places within the citie uppon payne of discomynyn and xlti daies imprisonment and it [*is*] also decreed that no Mayor for the tyme being shall dispense with any suche pedler or huckster contrary to this acte without the consent of the hole howse or the moost parte of them uppon payne of forfeiture of xx li. to be levied of the goodes and catalles of the said Maior to the use of the Chamber of Bristowe.

[*In the margin* For pedllares and huckstares. Repelled in Mr. Cuttes year.]

Robert Saxcey	Maior	Roger Jones
Roger Cooke		William Carre
Thomas Pacie		William Tindall
William Jaie		Edward Prynn
Roberte Adams		John Stone
David Harris		Roger Milward
William Carye		Thomas Sewarde
John Northall		William Jones
William Yonge		Nicholas Williams
George Snigge		Thomas Tisone
William Butler		Anthony Standbank
William Kelke		John Pokes thonger
William Appowell		John Cutt
Richard Pryne		Thomas Shipman
Richarde Merse		John Griffithe
Fraunces Codrington		John Willie
John Gourney		William Coxe
Wylliam Spratt		

Folio 16 TEMPORE WILLELMI PEPWALL
MAIORIS CIVITATIS BRISTOLLIE VTO
DIE SEPTEMBRIS ANNIS REGNORUM
REGIS ET REGINE PHILIPPI ET MARIE
QUINTO ET SEXTO

Memorandum that where as late Mr. Arthur Rycarte Mr. William Tucker nowe sheriffes of this citie of Bristowe and divers others of the burgeises and inhitauntes of the same have sued and arrested with proces commaundmentes from the King and Quenes Majesties honorable Counsaill in the Marches of Wales³³ contrary to the

³³ The Council in the Marches in Wales had jurisdiction over Gloucestershire and claimed jurisdiction over Bristol. Bristol claimed to be exempt as it was a county of itself and not in Gloucestershire. See *The Great White Book*, *op. cit.*, pp. 5–6.

auncient liberties and privileges of the said citie (as it is supposed), it is nowe ordayned and agreed by all the worshipfull persons of the Counsaill of the said citie whose names be underwritten that the saide matier shalbe tried and determyned at the costes and charges of the Chambre of Bristowe with asmoche spede as the same may conveniently. And farther it is likewise agreed that sute shalbe made to have the Charter of the said citie to be renewed and confirmed by the King and Quenes Majestie with all convenient spede at the costes of the said Chambre. Provided allwaies that if the Chambre be not provided of money sufficient to bere the charges and expenses of the promisses, that then it shalbe lawfull to Mr. Maior, thaldremen and others of their brethrene of the foresaid Counsaill to asseesse and sett a taxe uppon the whole Commynaltie of this citie of Bristowe towardses the charges thereof according to the liberties to them graunted in that behalf, so that the matier maie be thoroughe determyned for avoiding of trouble and expences.

[*In the margin* To contynew for apresident.]

	William Pepwall	Maior	William Tucker
	Thomas Pacie		William Kelke
	Roberte Adams		John Maunciell
	David Harris		John Brampton
	William Carye		Richarde Prynne
	John Northall		William Sprotte
	William Yonge		Richarde Morse
	Robert Saxcy		Thomas Launsden
	Arthur Ricart		John Gurney
			verte folium
<i>Folio 16v</i>	William Carre		John Pikes Junior
	Thomas Harrys		Egidius White
	William Tindall		John Cutte
	Edwarde Tynte		Thomas Shipman
	John Stones		John Griffith
	Roger Milwarde		George Snigge
	Thomas Seward		William Butler
	William Jones		Thomas Kelke
	Nicholas Williams		William Cockes
	Thomas Tison		John Willy
	Anthony Standbank		
	John Pikes Senior		

TEMPORE ROBERTI ADAMS MAIORIS
CIVITATIS BRISTOLLIE DIE MARTIS
VIDELICIT XIIIJO DIE DECEMBRIS
ANNO ELIZABETH REGINO PRIMO

Memorandum that the said Mr. Maior and others the worshipfull persons hereafter named being assembled together in the place accustomed to entreate uppon certaine matiers and necessarie causes, aswell touching the eleccion of the Keper of the Backehall, called Spicers Hall, as for the redresse of misorders and abuses within this citie, did consent and conclude that John Maunceill shulde from

thensforth be discharged of the office of the Keper of the Backehall aforesaid, he to have his pencion of twelve poundes by the yere, as he before tyme hath had. And the said Mr. Maior and other the said wurshipfull persons did then elect and choise Thomas Harris merchaunt to the said office, and named and appointed hym to be Keper of the said Backehall, paying such duties to the Chambrelaine as William Appowell late officer did use to paie for the same.

[*In the margin* To be considered. Qr. . . . disposed acordinge to the Doners gift.³⁴]

<i>Folio 17</i>	Robert Adams maior	William Jones
	Thomas Pacy	Nicholas Williams
	David Harris	Thomas Tison
	Robert Saxcy	Anthony Standbank
	Williams Pepwall	John Pikes Senior
	John Northall	John Pikes Junior
	John Browne	John Cutte
	John Prewett	Thomas Shipman
	John Brampton	John Griffith
	Roger Jones	John Willy
	Thomas Harris	Johannes Chester
	Edward Teynt	
	John Stones	
	Roger Milward	

TEMPORE PREDICTI ROBERTI ADAMS
MAIORIS CIVITATIS BRISTOLLIE
XVIIJO DIE JULY ANNO ELIZABETH
REGINE PRIMO

Memorandum that it is ordayned and established by all the wurshipfull persons of the Counceill of this citie of Bristowe whose names be written on the other side that from thensfurth when any shippe or barke shalbe to be graved within any porte of this citie, that the owner or maister of every suche shippe or barke may lawfully take any shipwright or carpinter that maie be founde within this libertie of this citie or the porte of Hungrode, to worke uppon every suche shippe or barke till the same shalbe fully graved, in whose worke soever the same carpinter shall then be. Provided allwaies that if two shippes or more shall happen to be agraving at one tyme, and that there shall not be sufficient carpinters to supplie the whole worke, that then there shalbe a convenient nombre of workmen assigned to every shippe or vessell by the discretion and order of Mr. Maior for the tyme being. Verte foll'

[*In the margin* A order for carpendares to go to the graving of shippes. To contynewe.]

(*Folio 17v*) And farther it is agreed by all the said wurshipfull persons that the Shiriffes of this citie for the tyme being shall geve and paie yerely to the water baily of the same a liverye and fortie shillinges for his wages.

³⁴ Partly illegible.

[*In the margin* The watter bailles fee.]

Robertus Adams	Maior	Rogerus Milwarde
Thomas Pacie		Willelmus Jones
David Harris		Nicholas Williams
Robertus Saxcy		Thomas Tyson
Willelmus Pepwall		Anthonius Standbank
Willelmus Carie		Johannes Pikes Senior
Johannes Northall		Johannes Pikes Junior
Willelmus Younge		Egidius White
Willelmus Kelke		Johannes Cutt
Johannes Maunceill		Thomas Shipman
Johannes Brampton		Johannes Griffith
Willelmus Sprott		Georgius Snigge
Johannes Gurney		Willelmus Butler
Rogerus Jones		Willelmus Tucker
Willelmus Carr		Willelmus Cox
Thomas Harris		Thomas Kelke
Edwardus Teynt		Johannes Willy
Johannes Stones		Jacobus Chester

Memorandum that the xiiijth daie of Septembre in the firste yere of the raigne of our soveraigne Ladie Elizabeth, by the grace of God Quene of Englande, Fraunce and Irelande, Defender of the Faith etc. It was agreed and ordayned by Mr. Roberte Adams, Maior of the cite of Bristowe, and others the wurshipfull persons of the Common Counsaill of the said cite being congregate together in the Councell Howse of the said cite that the right worshipfull Sir George Norton, knight, borne within this cite and a freholder of the same, shalbe admitted to the libertie and fredome of this cite, and be a fre burgeis of the same. So that the said Sir George Norton will take the corporall othe that all burgeises of the same cite use to take and receave when they be firste admitted or other wise not. But if he, the said Sir George Norton, shall think it unsemely for his estate to be founde to thinges contayned in the said othe, yet neverthe *Folio 18* lesse the said Maior and others of the said Councell have agreed and concluded that the said Sir George Norton shall have libertie and authoritie to buy all maner of wares and thinges necessarie for the provision of his house either by himself or by any other for him within this cite procinte and libertie of the same, as frely as any burgeis of this cite maie doe for the provision of his howse without any othe to be taken by the said Sir George Norton or any fyne to be yeleyd and paid but onlie the fees for the writinge, whiche writing it is condiscended shalbe under the common seale of the cite.

Memorandum that Sir George Norton, knight, was sworne as a burgeis before Mr. Roger Jones, Maior, Robert Adams, David Harris, Roberte Saxcy, Aldremen, and others the last daie of Februarie anno Regni Regine Elizabeth Secundo.

[*In the margin* Sir George Norton fre. Voide.]

TEMPORE ROGERI JONES MAIORIS
CIVITATIS BRISTOLLIE.

Memorandum that the xvjth daie of January in the seconde yere of the raigne of our souveraigne Ladie Quene Elizabeth, it was agreed and ordayned by Mr. Roger Jones, Maior, and others the wurshipfull persons of the Common Councaill of the cite of Bristowe whose names be hereafter written on the other side that fromhensfurth Mr. Maior of the said cite for the tyme being shall sitte one daie in the wike with the Aldremen in the Counsaill Chambre over the Tolsey secretly there to entreate and devise for the good order, rule and government of the said cite and for the common affaires thereof, and not to heare private sutes or complayntes that daye without the cause be great and urgent.

[*In the margin* To joynne the Mayor and Allddemen in the Council Chambre once a wick for the townes affayres. To contynewe.]

Item, it is also condescendid by all the said wurshipfull persons that fromhensfurth the Shriffes of this cite for the tyme beinge shall pay yerely to the bayly of the Hospitall of the Trynytie at Laffordes Yate to the use of the pore people there fortie shillings to be paid yerely on the even of Trynytie Sondag in verte follium *Folio 18v* recompense of the charges whiche before this tyme the Shriffes of this cite have used to bare for a drynkinge to be made to Mr. Maior and his brethrene yerely at that tyme. And the Chamberlaine for the tyme being to staye so moche in his handes to the use aforesaid.

[*In the margin* xl s. to be paid by the Sheriffes every yere for the usse of the Hospital. To contynewe.]

Also it is agreed by all the said wurshipfull persons that William Cockes, merchaunt, shalbe lincensed, acquitted and discharged from being Shriff of this cite, and not to be elected or chosyn to the said office. And that he the saide William Cockes shall not be impanellid or summoned to appere in any Jury or enquest to be taken in any of the courtes of the saide cite, but shalbe used esteemed and taken as though he were one of the Counsaill of the saide cite, excepte that he shall not be called to the Counsaill Howse. In consideracion of the whiche license and discharge the said William Cockes hathe condescended to give to the use of the Chambre xx li. of lafull money.

[*In the margin* Voide.]

Rogerus Jones Maior
Thomas Pacy
Robert Adams
David Harrys
Robertus Saxcy
Willelmus Pepwall
Willelmus Cary
Johannes Northall
Thomas Chester
Thomas Kelke
Johannes Gurney
Willelmus Carr
Edwardus Teynt

Johannes Stones
Willelmus Jones
Nicholas Williams
Anthonius Standbank
Johannes Pikes Junior
Egidius White
Johannes Cutte
Georgius Snig
Willelmus Tucker
Johannes Prewett
Johannes Willy
Johannes Robertes
Johannes Wade
Michael Sowardley

Also it is agreed by the whole howse that the vj persons under named, or iiij of them, shall examyne and understand how the money that Mr. Roberte Thorne gave is imployed, and what sureties be put in for the payment thereof. And suche order as they shall take to be contynued.

David Harris
Robert Saxey
William Carr

John Cutte
Johannes Pike Junior
Thomas Shipman

[*In the margin Voide.*]

Folio 19 TEMPORE PREDICTI ROGERI JONES
MAIORIS CIVITATIS BRISTOLLIE DIE
VENERIS VIDELICET XO (*sic*) DECIMO
DIE MAIJ ANNO REGNI REGINE
ELIZABETH SECUNDO

Memorandum that it is agreed by all those wurshipfull persons of the common Counsaill of this citie whose names be underwritten that from hensfurth there shall no bochor make any candles within this citie but only common chaundlers appointed uppon payne that every one that dothe the contrary shall pay for every li xx s.

[*In the margin Voide.*]

Item it is likewise agreed by all the said wurshipfull persons that Thomas Launsdon is and shalbe fromhensfurth utterly expelled owt of the Counsaill Howse, and never to be of the said company, nor called unto the Counsaill Howse uppon paine if any maior attempt the contrary, he to forfait to the Chambre xx li.

[*In the margin Voide.*]

Item it is in like maner agreed by all the said persons that every Aldreman shall by all his endeavour and diligence put downe all the Crokebruers within his warde.

Rogerus Jones Maior
Thomas Pacy
Robertus Adams
David Harrys
Robertus Saxcy
Willelmus Pepwall
Thomas Chester
Johannes Maunceill
Johannes Brampton
Johannes Gurney
Thomas Harris
Edwardus Teynt
Johannes Stones
Rogerus Milwarde

Willelmus Jones
Nicholas Williams
Anthonius Standbank
Johannes Pykes
Egidius White
Thomas Shipman
Johannes Griffith
Georgius Snigge
Willelmus Tucker
Johannes Browne
Johannes Prewet
Johannes Wyly
Johannes Wade

Item at the same tyme it was agreed by Mr. Roger Jones, Maior, and other the wurshipfull persons of the common counsaill before named that where the said Mr. Roger Jones with the consent of all the said wurshipfull persons hath appointed Mr. David Harris, Mr. Robert Saxcy, Aldremen, William Carr, Thomas Tyson, John Cutt

and Thomas Shipman, late Shiriffe, to, verte follium, *folio* 19v understande the state of the money appointed and given by Mr. Robert Thorne and Nicholas Thorne to the use of clothe makinge for the relief of the poore in Bristowe, the saide parties do fynde the xxth daie of Marche Anno 1559 that there hath been delivered to that use to dyvers persons of this citie by the Chamberlaynes John Wyly and John Sebright CCCxij li. x s. And that the Chambre hath spent of the same money growing to the use of clothe makinge CCxxxv li. x s. Notwithstandinge the Lordships of Hampe and Wynterburne Gonner do stande bownde for the furnytüre of 1 li. by the yere. In consideracion whereof and for mysusing the charitie of good men given to the relief of the poore, the said parties by this their order doe discharge the Chamberlaine from the receaving any more of suche somme or sommes of money. And doe appointe a coffer with foure lockes and kayes thereunto belonginge whereof Mr. Maior for the yere beinge shall have one, and the other three to be delivered to iij of the Counsaill such as shalbe thought most convenient and diligent persons, that be carefull to see the charitie of good men emploied to suche uses as it is appointed and given and to no other use. And that the Bailiffe of Hampe and Wynterbourne Gonner shall yerely pay to them to be putt into the said coffer for the said use 1 li., videlicet every half yere xxv li. wiche money nor any parte thereof the Maior for the tyme beinge shall not appoynt nor dispose any thinge of without the consent and goodwill of the said clavingers and of the moste part of them. And when God shall call any of them owt of the worlde, immediatly after his death those that be livinge of the said clavingers shall appointe an other of the Counsaill in his place, suche as they shall think good and of conscience to doe according to the truste he shalbe putt in. Mr. Maior and Mr. John Pikes, Mr. Thomas Shipman and Mr. Thomas Kelke be at this present appointed to have the clavage and custodie of the keyes of the coffer.

[*In margin on Folio 19* A order for receivynge and dellivering of Mr. Thornes money to the uses of clothe makynge. *In margin on Folio 19v* To contynewe and dewly to be observid.]

Also they think good, if any goodmen hereafter shall give any parte of his goodes for the relief of the poore, or for any other good uses whatsoever, they be that maye redounde to the common weale of this citie, the same gifte so given shalbe brought to the said coffer and by the said parties putt in use according to the givers will.

[*In the margin* To contynewe.]

Folio 20 **TEMPORE WILLELMI CARR MAIORIS**
CIVITATIS BRISTOLLIE

Memorandum that the sixth daie of Aprill in the thirde yere of the raigne of our soveraigne ladie Quene Elizabeth. It is agreed by the worshipfull persons of the Commen Councell of this citie that fromhensforth no straunger or foryner shalbe made free of this said citie by the maryng of a woman that was before a freemans wief or a freemans daughter. And that no such person maryng with suche woman not being an artificer or craftesman shalbe admytted to the freedome of this citie except he pay for his fredom the somme of x li.

at the least. And if he be a craftesman or of any honest occupacon, then he shall enjoye the fredome of this cite for such reasonable sommes of money as shalbe thought convenient to Mr. Maior and the Aldremen of this said cite for the tyme being.

[*In the margin* For making of strangers fre by mariage of town children. To be considerid of.]

TEMPORE JOHANNIS STONES
MAIORIS CIVITATIS BRISTOLLIE

[*In the margin on right* Primo.]

Memorandum that the ixth daie of Marche, in the fivth yere of the raigne of our soveraigne ladie Quene Elizabeth, it was fully concluded and agreed by all the worshipfull persons of the Common Counsaill of this cite, that William Jones. late Shiriffe of the said cite, shall at the feest of Saint Mighell tharchaungell nexte ensuinge enter into the office of keping of the Backehall, comonly called Spicers Hall, of late executed by one William Sprotte, merchaunt, decessed. To have, holde, occupie and enjoe the said office to the said William Jones fromthensforth, during the terme of his lief for the like rente as the said William Sprotte helde the same, videlicet x li. yerely to be paid to thandes of the Chambrelaine or of his suit to the use of the Maior and Comynaltie of the said cite. Provided allwaies that the said William Jones shall not at any tyme during the terme abovesaid permytt or suffer any straunger or straungers to buy any kynde of merchandizes or wares in the said Backehall contrary to the order of the said cite upon paine of forfeiture and loosing of the said office.

[*In the margin* Voide.]

Folio 20v TEMPORE JOHANNES STONES MAIORIS
CIVITATIS BRISTOLLIE

Memorandum that the xvijth daie of June in the fivth yere of the raigne of our soveraigne ladie Quene Elizabeth. It was fully agreed and ordayned by all the worshipfull persons of the Common Counsaill of this cite of Bristowe that if at any tyme hereafter it shall fortune any person to be founde deed within this said cite by drownynge or any other soden misfortune not being sufficient of the goodes of the same person within said cite to paie and aunswere the Crowners of the same of their fee and dutie for taking inquisicon uppon the vewe of the bodie of suche person being found deed, that then the said Crowners for the tyme being shalbe paid their said fee of the five wardes of this cite videlicet of every warde ij s. viij d. to be paid and gathered of xlti of the most welthie and substanciall persons of every of the said wardes by the lymytacion and appointment of Mr. Maior and the Aldremen for the tyme being, videlicet, of every of the said persons j d. and the officer that shall gather the same to have the overplus thereof for his labour etc.

[*In the margin* The coroners ought to have no fee.³⁵ To contynewe. *Struck through* To be considered of.]

Also it is agreed and ordayned the daie and yere above written that

³⁵ But a fee is mentioned in the ordinance.

aswell the Maior and Shriffes of this citie for the tyme being, as all others of the common Counsaill of the same that have or hereafter shall bere or supply the offices of Maior or Shriffes within the same, bothe in and during their offices and afterwarde, shall yerely uppon the daies underwritten weare their scarlett gownes uppon paine to forfaitte and loose for every time making defaulte vj s. viij d. without any pardon or forgevenes, to be paid by the person or persons offending in that behalf. And if the Maior for the tyme being do not putt this order in due execucion he shall forfeit and paie x s. All whiche forfeitures to remayne to the pore towards their relief.

Mighelmas daie	Ascension daie
Alhallou daie	Witsonday
Cristemas daie	Witmondai
St. Stephins daie	Trynitie Sunday
Twelf daie	St. James daie (if the Mayor
Ester daie	go to the fayer) ³⁶
Ester Monday	

Provided allwaies that the order abovesaid shall not extend to compell any of the persons above menconed to weare his scarlett gowne uppon Saint James daie, unless he be specially warned by one of Mr. Maiors Sergeauntes.

[*In the margin* To contynewe.]

Folio 21 Memorandum that the xjth of August in the fiveth yere of the raigne of our soveraigne ladie Quene Elizabeth it was agreed by the more parte of the house that none of the worshipfull persons of this citie that hath been ons Maior of the said citie shalbe chosen agayne to the same office, that is, to be twice Maior except he be content of his goodwill to supply the same office the seconde tyme. [*In the margin* Repelyd the xvth day of Septembr Anno vijmo Elizabeth regine. Nego. Voide.]

TEMPORE NICHOLI WILLIAMS
MAIORIS CIVITATIS BRISTOLLIE

Memorandum that the fourth daie of February in the vjth yere of the raign of our soveraigne ladie Quene Elizabeth, it was agreed by Mr. Maior and all the worshipfull persons of the Common Counsaill of the said citie of Bristowe, that every firste Tewisday of every monethe in the yere, all the persons of the said Counsaill shalbe called and resorte together to understand and take order for suche things as shalbe amisse, that the same maie be redressed.

[*In the margin* Once every month to call the Counsell. To contynewe.]

Memorandum that the vjth daie of June in the yere abovesaid it is ordeyned by the worshipfull persons of the Counsaill of this citie that for every shippe of the burthen of a hundred tonnes and upwardes that shalbe graven or amendyd at the slippe of the Back of Abon, the owner shall paie to the Chambre of this citie xl s. for every tyme and

³⁶ If . . . fayer added in a different hand and ink.

for every shippe under a hundred tonne to xlti tonne xxvj s. viij d. and under xlti tonne to paie xx s. for every suche graving. Provided also, and it is ordeyned that no person shall burne any shippe or any other vessell with helme, strawe or any other thing at the Backe aforesaid, but *Folio 21v* if they heate any pitche or plank they shall doe it uppon the Chesyll within x fote of the lowe water marke. And that if any digge any holes or breake any parte of the shippe they shall fill and repaire the same againe at their owne costes and charges furthewith.

[*In the margin* Graving of shippes at the Backe. To contynewe.]

Also that no bote bearing any maste shalbe sewed³⁷ uppon any of the shippes uppon payne to forfaytt for every tyme vj s. viij d. And if any straungers offend in any of the said poyntes after lafull warnynge, they shall forfayte the doble of the somes abovewritten.

[*In the margin* To contynewe.]

TEMPORE JOHANNES NORTHALL
MAIORIS CIVITATIS BRISTOLLIE

It is ordeyned by the said Mr. Maior, the Aldremen and Common Counsell of the said citie the xxjth daie of Marche, in the viijth yere of the raigne of our soveraign ladie Quene Elizabeth, that if any freman or burgesse of this citie shall departe owt of the same citie to dwell being judged by the Common Counsell of the said citie to be of habilitie to beare the office of Shriffe or Maior of the said citie, or shall not supplie the same office when he shalbe lafully required thereunto, shall forfaite to the Maior and Commonialtie of the citie aforesaid the some of CC li. and loose the freedome of the citie.

[*In the margin* That no burgesse of habilitie to be Mayor or Sherif shall depart without leave upon payne of ijC li. To contynewe.]

Folio 22 TEMPORE JOHANNES CUTT, MAIORIS
CIVITATIS BRISTOLLIE

Memorandum that the ijde daie of Octobre in the viijth yere of the raigne of our soveraigne ladie Quene Elizabeth, it is ordeyned by the worshipfull Mr. John Cutt, Maior, the Aldremen and Common Counsaill of this citie of Bristowe, that where there was an ordynance made by the Common Counsell of the citie aforesaid, Mr. Robert Saxcy then being Maior, that there shulde be no huxter suffered in this citie uppon paine that the Maior for the tyme being shulde lose a fyne of xx li., it is nowe agreed that the said ordynance as towching the fyne aforesaid shall from hensforth be voide and of none effecte. And now it is ordeyned by the said Mr. Maior, Aldreman and Common Councell, that fromhensforthe there shalbe noe huxtor or regrabor within this citie or the liberties of the same to buye and sell any butter, chese, egges, onyons, otemeale or any other manner of vittelles openly or prively after the xxth daie of this present moneth of Octobre uppon paine to forfaytt the thinges so bought and solde, thone half to him or them that shall dulia prove the same, and the other halfe to the prisoners of Newgate, and to suffer imprisonment by the discretion of Mr. Maior and the Aldremen for the tyme being.

³⁷ A ship was said to be 'sewed' when she came to lie on the ground or lie dry.

And further it is ordayned that if the Maior for the tyme beinge uppon complaynte and due profe unto him made that any person shall offende the ordynaunce aforesaid, doe not see a redresse thereof furthewith and the offenders in that behalfe punysshed according as is afore expressed, the said Maior for the tyme being shall lose of his fee v li. at every tyme, and that the Chamberlaine shall retayne the money so forfeited in his handes. Provided that the Maior and the Aldremen for the tyme beinge maie appoynte five pore widowes of every warde, one to sell onlie small salte otemele and onyons in the usuall place under the pentise at the Backe, and on the Sondaies and holydaies at their dwelling howses.

[*In the margin* Repelyd the xxxth day of Octobre anno ixo regni regine Elizabethæ.³⁸ Voide.]

Folio 22v Memorandum that the vijth daie of October, in the viijth yere of the raigne of our soveraigne ladie Quene Elizabeth, it was agreed by Mr. Maior, the Aldremen and Common Counsaill of the cite of Bristowe for the better provision for the bringing uppe of the Orphanes of this cite, and saffe keping of their money and goodes to them bequethed or hereafter to be bequethed by their parentes or frendes, that there shalbe one honest discrete burgesse of this cite chosen, who shalbe namyd the Father of Orphanes. Whereuppon at this daie John White, merchaunt, is chosen and appoynted to that office to be Father of Orphanes. And in consideracon of his earnyst diligence, travell and payne that he shall take about that affaires and busynes, it is agreed that he shall have libertie not to be chosen into the office of the Shryffe of this cite by the space of sixe yeres next comynge from the tyme of the eleccion last paste. And the said John Whyte in consideracon aforesaid dothe agree that the xlti markes whiche he, the said John White, hath deliverid to Robert Halton, now Chamberlaine, shalbe to the onlie use of the Chambre forever, without any maner of condicion, so that he be not chosen Shriffe within the tyme aforesaid.

[*In the margin* For orphanes. Void.]

Memorandum that the xiiijth daie of Octobre in the yere above-said, it is ordeyned by the afore named Maior, Aldremen and Common Counsaill that it shalbe lofull for all the burgesses of this cite frely to buy all maner of bordes or planks and to sell the same againe to their neighbours or other inhabitantes of this cite to be spent or occupied within the said cite or the liberties thereof and not elsewhere, notwithstandinge any ordynaunce heretofore made in the Joyners and Cofferers corporacon or crafte, saving that they shall not buy any Bewdeley bordes to sell agayne. And that none of the burgesses sell to any foryners or convey or sende any bordes or planks owt of the liberties of this cite by lande or by water uppon payne to forfaytt for every hundred of bordes so solde, sent or conveyed iij s. iiij d. *Folio 23* Provided alwaies that if any of the burgesses of this cite shall have any moe bordes lyinge at the Key or Backe then he shall have nede presently to occupie, that then any

³⁸ It was repealed 30th November, not 30th October. See fo. 24.

other burgesse having present nede to occupie sawen bordes shall have parte of the same bordes to serve his nede at the price that the same bordes werr bought, by the appoyntement of Mr. Mayor for the tyme beinge, and one of the Aldremen by their good discretion. Provided also that any of the burgesses of this citie for their owne provision or occupyinge maye sende or convey sawen bordes necessarie for their purpose into the countrey to their howses. And also that Mr. Mayor and one of the Aldremen for the tyme beinge maie gyve license to the burgesses of this citie to sell bordes to any gentleman having nede of bordes for his necessarie buyldynge.

[*In the margin on Folio 22v* To by bords frely. To contynewe.]

XO DIE DECEMBRIS ANNO REGNI

REGINE ELIZABETH NONO

Memorandum that whereas before this tyme great inconvenyence and detryment hath rysen and growen by casting of sopers asshes³⁹ into the ryver of this citie at sundry places by certen persons of the trafic of sopemakers, whereby many bankes and quarres be growen in the said river, whiche in shorte tyme (if spedye remedye be not provided) is like to redowne to the utter decaie and destruccion of the same river. It is nowe therefore ordayned for reformacion thereof by the worshipfull John Cutt, Maior, the Aldremen, Shriffes and others of the Common Counsaill of the citie of Bristowe whose names be hereafter written that noe person or persons of the said crafte of Sopemakers, nor any other, shall at any tyme hereafter convey or carie by water or caste or laie, or cause to be caried, caste or laied any sope asshes either in the said river, or any parte thereof, or within a hundred fote of the full sea marke uppon payne to forfait and lose for every defalte in that behalf beinge dulye approved – xx li. to be devided *Folio 23v* in foure partes, that is to wite, one parte thereof to be to the Maior and Aldremen for the tyme being, an other parte to the Maior and Comonaltie, the iijde to the Shriffe for the tyme beinge, and the iiijth parte to him that shall give informacion for the same.

Provided alwaies that it shalbe lafull to the said sopemakers to laie their sope asshes in their backsides or howses for a tyme, till the same maie be conveniently removed and caried awaie.

[*In the margin* Casting owt sope asshes to forfait 20 li. To contynewe.]

John Cutt, Maior
David Harris
Robert Saxcy
William Pepwall
Roger Jones
William Carie
John Northall

Thomas Kelke
John Wade
Thomas Colston
William Belsher
Thomas Yonge
Richard Davis
Edmonde Jones

³⁹ Soaper's ash was later used in place of lime in the Bristol glass industry. See *Proceedings of the Society of Soapmakers*, 1562–1642, ed. Harold Evans Matthews, B.R.S., Vol. X 1939 p. 5. In Aubrey's *Brief Lives*, Peregrine ed., 1962, pp. 142–3, it is said that Edward Broughton, when living near Bristol, used soap ashes as compost to improve his land.

John Stones	William Yonge
Anthony Standbank	John Jones
Philippe Langley	Domynick Chester
Thomas Aldworth	William Yemans
George Snygge	Robert Halton
William Tucker	Robert Smyth
John Browne	Nicholas Blake
John Prewett	John White
Thomas Chester	

Memorandum that the daie and yere afore recited, Anthony Standbank and Thomas Yonge by the agreament of the persons aforenamed were elected and chosen Auditors of the Almeshowse of the Trynitie Chappell at Laffordes Gate. And also the said persons to be chosen Auditors of the landes geven by Doctor Owen to the use of the pore.

[In the margin Voide.]

Folio 24 XJTH DIE MARTIJ ANNO REGNI
REGINE ELIZABETH NONO

Memorandum that it is agreed and ordayned by Mr. John Cutt, Maior of the citie of Bristowe, thaldremen, Shriffes and Common Councell of the same, that from hensforth the Maior for the tyme beinge shall not of his owne auctoritie appoynt or name who shall have the occupyng of the fyftie powndes geven by Mr. Thorne to the use of clothe makinge, but that the same graunte and appoyntment of the person shalbe yerely by the consent and agreament of the Maior and of all the five Aldremen, and every of them uppon payne that the Maior for the tyme beinge doyinge the contrarye shall loose x li. of his fee that he is used to receyve of the Chambre and the Chamberlayne shall receyve the same x li. to the use of the Chambre.

[In the margin and struck through: To be considered of. To contynewe.]

XVIJ DIE JUNIJ ANNO REGNIS REGINE
ELIZABETH NONO

Memorandum that it is agreed and ordayned by Mr. Mayor, the Aldremen, Shriffes and Common Councell of this citie of Bristowe, that Thomas Chester and Thomas Kelke, merchauntes, shall have the custodie of the money given by Sir Thomas White, Knight, and the rentes of the landes purchased by him to emploie to the use and profytt of the Chambre, and to the entent to purchase the residie of the landes according to the devise of the said Sir Thomas White appearing in a tripartite Indenture, and they to disburse C li. yerely according to the tenor of the said Indenture.

Also it is by them ordayned that where the Chambre of this citie is indetted to the purchasing of the residie of the landes appoynted by the said Sir Thomas White in the some of CCCCLIij li. vij s. j d., that the Chamberleyn shall deliver to the use and purpose aforesaid to the persons above named, Clxxxv li. xiiij s. viij d. at the feast of Saint Martyn next comynge, and at Saint Martyns daie anno domini 1568

1 li. and at that daie anno 1569 1 li. and at that daie 1570 1 li. and at that daie anno 1571 1 li. and *Folio 24v* at that daie 1572 lxvij li. xij s. v d. in full payment of the said some of CCCCliv li. vij s. j d. And it is further ordayned that Mr. Maior for the tyme beinge shall not commaunde or charge the Chamberleyn to disburse any somes of money extra ordinarie without the consent of the Common Councell, untill the said somes be fully disbursed as is aforesaid.

TEMPORE MAIORATUS WILLELMI
PEPWALL XIXO DIE MARTIJ ANNO
REGNI REGINE ELIZABETH ETC. XO

Memorandum that the day above writen, yt was ordeyned and agreed by the Worshipfull Mr. William Pepwall, Maior of the said citie, the Aldermen and Comon Counsell of the same, that the landes and tenementtes conteyned in a paper writen by Robert Halton, now Chamberlen, subscribed by Mr. Maior, Mr. Recorder and the Aldermen, shall be surveyed by the Surveyors of the Landes of the saide citie, before the feaste of the Nativitie of Sainte John Baptiste nexte cominge. And the parcells thereof may be offered to be solde in fee farme to such parsons as will give moste for the same for the benefitt of the Chamber of thys citie. And that before any bargen concluded or agreed upon, the reporte may be made, and the matter to be opened before Mr. Mayor and the Common Counsell of this citie.

[*In the margin Voide.*]

Memorandum that the xxxth day of November anno Regni Regina Elizabeth etc. ixo⁴⁰ yt was agreed by the saide Maior, Aldermen and Common Counsell, that the ordynance made for huxsters in the tyme of John Cutt late Maior of the citie of Bristowe shall be from henceforth repealed, and of non effecte.

[*In the margin Voide.*]

Folio 25 TEMPORE MAIORATUS JOHANNIS
STONE XIXO DIE JULIJ ANNO REGNI
REGINE ELIZABETHE XJO

Memorandum that the day above writen yt was agreed and condescended by the said worshipfull Mr. John Stone, Maior, the Aldermen and Common Counsell of the same, that the new articles towching the companie of Chaundlers and Sopemakers are allowed good and reasonable, and be therefore by them established and confirmed accordinge to the same, as theye are put in writinge and sealed with the common seale of the said citie.

[*In the margin Voide.*]

Also it was concluded the xxijth day of Auguste anno predicto by the foresaid Maior, Aldermen and Common Counsell that Nicholas Blake, sopemaker, shall have libertie not to be chosen to the office of a Sheriff for the space of five yeres next cominge after the day of the next election, except he him self be contented to take the office upon him in the meane tyme.

⁴⁰ Since the preceding entry was dated anno Regni Regine Elizabeth x, this is presumably an error for xi.

[In the margin Voide.]

Also yt is by them decreed the day last beforesaid that if the brooke fell⁴¹ be not in the Skynners ordynance that then the Poyntmakers shall have it putt into their ordynance.

[In the margin Voide.]

Tempore maioratus Thome Chester

Thomas Chester, Maior	Georgius Snigge
David Harris	Johannes Browne
Robertus Saxie	Johannes Pruett
Willelmus Pepwall	Thomas Kelk
Rogerus Jones	Michael Sowdley
Willelmus Carr	Georgius Higgens
Johannes Northull	Johannes Wade
Johannes Stone	Thomas Colston
Anthonius Standbanck	Johannes Roberttes
Johannes Cutt	Thomas Yonge
Thomas Rowland)	Edmundus Jones
Ricardus Cole) vicecomites	Thomas Slocumbe
Folio 25v William Yonge	William Yemans
Phillipp Langley	Nicholus Blake
Thomas Aldworth	Johannes White
Dominick Chester	Willelmus Gyttons
Walter Pikes	John Barnes
Thomas Kirkland	Robertus Halton
Richard Yonge	Wylliam Hicces
John Willye	

Memorandum that the vth day of November anno Regni Regine Elizabeth etc. xjo it was agreed by the worshipfull Mr. Thomas Chester, Maior of the citie of Bristowe, the Aldermen and Common Counsell of the said citie, whose names are before writed, that the Bootchers ordinaunce is good and oughte to be observed [*beca*]use⁴² it was made by the Comon Counsell of the same citie then beinge. So that the graunte of the lycence made to Richard Newman, butcher, that he shold sell flesh in the shopp where he dwellith standinge withowte the lymittes of the flesshe shambles in the strete called Worshipfull Strete (contrary to an article comprised in the said ordynaunce) is voyde, and oughte to take no place because it is contrary to the said ordynaunce. Provided allways that the said Richard Newman shall be restored againe to all the money that he hath paid to the Chamber of the saide citie for the said lycence.

[In the margin Concerning bochers. Voide.]

It is likewise agreed at the same tyme that William Gythone, merchantt, shall pay the some of vj li. xiiij s. iiij d. to the use of the Chamber of the said citie as a fyne, because he bought certayne trane brought hither by strangers, before the same was brought to the

⁴¹ Brooke fell = lamb's fell, i.e. lamb's skin.

⁴² There is a blot over the first part of the word.

Backhall of this citie, contrary to auntyent usages of this citie.

[*In the margin* Mr. Gittons fyned in 6-11-4 for buyinge of trayne⁴³ beffor it was broughte to the Backehall. Voide.]

Memorandum that the xxijth day of Marche anno Regni Regine Elizabeth the duodemimo, yt was agreed by the worshipfull Mr. Thomas Chester, Mayor, the Aldermen, Sheriffes, Common Counsell of the citie of Bristowe beinge assembled together in the Counsell Howse for the chusinge of an High Steward after the deth of the righte honorable William, Earle of Penbroke, Lorde Steward of the Queenes Highnes Most Honorable Counsell. And uppon theire deliberate advise and agrementt, they have elected and chosen the Righte Honorable Roberte, Earle of Leycestre, to enjoye the said office of Highe Stewardshippe with the fee of iiij li., as heretofore it hath byn used.⁴⁴

[*In the margin* Robarte, Earle of Leycestre, chosen Hygh Stewarde fee iiij li. Voide.]

Folio 26 Also it is agreed by the saide Mr. Maior and Common Counsell that at all tymes whensoever the saide office shall be voyde, the same office shall be given to one of the Privie Counsell commonly attendinge upon the Cowrte abowte the Queenes person, as heretofore hath byn used.

[*In the margin* Our Steward to be one of the Prevye Counsell. To contynewe.]

Item it is also agreed that from hensforthe the office of salt meater shall be given from tyme to tyme by the common assent of the Common Counsell of this citie. And the same office is at this presente day given to Allen Hill, merchaunt.

[*In the margin* Salt meter to be chosyn by the Common Counsell. To contynewe.]

At this day followynge, videlicet the nynth of May anno Regni Regine Elizabeth the duodemimo yt was consented and agreed by the foresaid Mr. Maior, Aldermen and Common Counsell⁴⁵

[*In the margin* Vacat. Mr. William Yate beinge Maior stroke out this, he beinge finned for boyling talo to make sope.]

XIJO DIE AUGUSTI ANNO REGNI REGINE PREDICTO

The sayde Master Thomas Chester, Maior, the Aldermen and others of the Common Counsell are contented to give the office of the Recordershippe of this citie to Mr. John Popham, condicionally that either he will comme to dwell in this citie, or within xij or xv myles of the same, or at the leaste to repayre hither fowre tymes of the yere beside the tyme of the gaile delyverie, and oftener yf occasion shall so require.

⁴³ 'Trane' or train oil was oil obtained from various fish and used as a substitute for olive oil in soapmaking.

⁴⁴ The grant of this office is in *The Great White Book*, *op. cit.*, fo. 299.

⁴⁵ Three lines are heavily crossed out. They possibly read: *that William Yate sopemaker shall pay his fyne for boyling of tallow for makeinge contrary to the Ord . . . (illegible) made.*

[*In the margin* The Recorder chossyn with condicions. Voide.]

Also at this day Master Anthonie Standbanck was chosen to the office of the Keper of the Backhall so that he shall be residente and dwell uppon it him selff, and not set it to any other for any stipende or other gaine. And it is also agreed that Joane Wyllye, widowe, shall continewe the kepinge of the saide hall, and take the profettes thereof untill the Vigill Evyn of the Feaste of the Byrthe of Christe, as she hathe heretofore donne.

[*In the margin* Mr. Stanback chosen to the Backhall uppon condicions. Voide.]

XIJO DIE SEPTEMBRIS ANNO REGNI
REGINE PREDICTO

Upon humble sute and requeste made by John Lacye beinge late one of the Comon Counsell of the saide citie, and upon resonable causes by him proponed in the saide Counsell Howse the day above writen before the saide Mr. Thomas Chester, Maior, and before the residewe of the Common Counsell then and there beinge, it is by them ordeyned and decreed that the saide John Lacye shall be exempted from beinge one of the Common Counsell of the saide citie untill suche tyme as he shall be called againe to be one of the same counsell.⁴⁶ And neverthesse shall remayne a burges of this citie. In consideracion whereof the said John Lacy did graunte to give to the Chamber for a fyne ten pounds.

[*In the margin* John Lacye is dismissed from the Common Counsell by his owne procuremente, and geven x li. for a fyne. Voide.]

Folio 26v XIJ SEPTEMBRIS ANNO REGNI
REGINE XIJO

An ordinance made for the namage and electinge of the Maior of the citie of Bristowe.

Memorandum that at the Common Counsell holdon the day above writen before the Righte Worshipfull Mr. Thomas Chester, Maior of the citie of Bristowe, and the Aldermen, Sheriffes, and the residewe of the Common Counsell of the same citie whose names are hereafter writen, it is ordeyned and established, that from hensforthe for evermore the Maior of the saide citie for the tyme beinge, shall yerely cause the Common Counsell of the saide citie to be warned to assemble and come to gither in the Counsell House on Saincte Gyles day beinge the first day of September, there to name and appoynte three of the most auncynttes and metest parsons of the companie of the whole house for the supplyinge of the office of the Mairaltie of the saide citie for the yere followinge.

Of the whiche three parsons the first shalbe named by Mr. Maior for the tyme beinge, the seconde by the Aldermen that have byn Maiors and by the Sheriffes for the tyme beinge,⁴⁷ or by the more parte of

⁴⁶ John Lacy is mentioned by John Latimer in *Sixteenth-Century Bristol*, 1908, p. 56, where he quotes the Chamberlain's receipts which record the part-payment of £5 and says that he may be called again to the Common Council 'when he shall be of better ability.'

⁴⁷ *Have byn . . . tyme beinge* interlined.

them, and the thirde by the residewe of the Common Counsell or by the more parte of them. And there after at the usuall day of election beinge the morowe after the feaste day of the Exaltacion of the Hollie Crosse to procede to chewse one of those foresaide thre persons to be Maior. And every one of the Counsell to give their voyces in order frelye for the chewsing of one of the saide thre parsons so before named and appoynted to be Maior. And that he of the saide three parsons which shall be then chosen by the most voyces of the same Counsell for the tyme beinge, shall be Maior of the saide citie for the yere followinge.

[*In the margin* This act ys of no effect but ys referryd to the old election in Master Tuckers yere.⁴⁸ To be considered of. .]

Item it is likewise agreed that from hensforthe there shalbe but only five huxsters in the whole citie to sell frute. Every of whiche five shall be bounde with two sufficiente suerties with them in five poundes a pece to Mr. Maior and the Communitie upon condicion that non of them nor any other parson for them, shall buy any kinde of fruite in anye parte of the citie nor forstall any fruite comminge to the marchett privelye or otherwise. Provided neverthesse that it shalbe *Folio 27* lafull for them to buy of any burges of this citie such fruite as shall growe in their owne orchardes and non other. And whosoever shall dulye prove that any of the saide five huxters shall buy any fruite contrary to the saide order he shall have fyve shillings. And that no other parson or parsons (not beinge licensed) shall sell any fruite within this citie under paine that every one doinge contrarye shall forfeight every tyme iij s. iiij d. And whosoever shall dulye prove any to sell fruite (not beinge so lycensed) shall have the halffe of the saide fyne of iij s. iiij d. and thother halff to the use of the Chamber. Also it is agreed that there shall be two appoynted to sell otemeale under the pentice at the Backe. And these ordenances to begynne the xxiiijth day of this presente moneth of Septembre.

[*In the margin* V hucksters admyttyd. To contynewe upon better consideration.]

Thomas Chester, Maior	Thomas Colston
David Harris	Johannes Roberttes
Robertus Saxie	Thomas Yonge
Willelmus Pepwall	Edmundus Jones
Rogerus Jones	Thomas Slocumbe
Willelmus Carr	Willelmus Yonge
Johannes Northall	Johannes Jones
Willelmus Carie	Phillippus Langley
Johannes Stone	Thomas Aldeworthe
Anthonius Stanbancke	Dominus Chester
Johannes Cutt	Walterus Pikes
Thomas Rowland)	Thomas Kirkland

⁴⁸ This marginal note is in a hand similar to the text. William Tucker was Mayor the next year, 12th–13th Elizabeth. *To be considered of* is in the hand of other marginal notes.

Richardus Cole)	Richardus Yonge
vicecomites	
Willelmus Tucker	Willelmus Yemans
Johannes Browne	Robertus Halton
Thomas Kelke	Nicholus Blake
Michaelle Sowdeley	Willelmus Gyttons
Georgius Higgins	Johannes Barnes
Johannes Wade	Willelmus Hyckes

XVIII DIE SEPTEMBRIS ANO REGNI
REGINE XIJO

Memorandum that at the Comon Counsell holden the daye and yere above wrytten before the worshipfull Mr. Thomas Chester, Mayor of the cytye of Bristowe, the Aldermen, Shiriffes and the resydue of the Common Counsell being there assembled, came Wyllyam Yate of the cytye of Bristowe, sope maker, and submytt hymselfe to abyde their order and discrecyon concernyng the matter being then in questyon before them towching *Folio 27v* the said Wyllyam Yate. Whereuppon it is ordayned and decreed by the most voyces of the said Common Counsell being present in the said Counsell Howse, that he, the said Wyllyam Yate, shall paie xiiij li. vj s. viij d. of lafull money of Englund for disobeying of the comaundement of Mr. Mayor and his brethrene and for his misdemenor in the said crafte of Sopemaking, which said some shalbe receyved by the Chamberleyne to be imployed and bestowed abowte some good necessarye purpose for the profytt and comodytie of the said cytie. [*In the margin* Mr. Yate is fined to pay xiiij li. vj s. viij d. for misdemeanor and for boylinge of tallowe in his sope. Voide.]

XVIII DIE SEPTEMBRIS ANNO REGNI
DOMINE NOSTRE ELIZABETH ETC.
DUODECIMO

It ys condiscended, resolved and agreed by the worshipfull Mr. Thomas Chester, Maior, the Aldermen, Shiriffes and Common Counsell being assembled together in the Counsell Howse the daie above wrytten that the burgesses of the Companye of the crafte of Whittawers, Poyntmakers, Purses and Glovers of this cytie maye lawfullie buy all such sheepe felles and lames felles commonlie called brooke felles which shalbe mete to be shorne or pulled. And further it is by the said Mr. Maior and Comon Counsell ordayned and established that noe burgesse or other inhabytantes within the lyberties of this cytie shall from hensfourth unlawfullie ingrosse into his or their handes any of the said brokefelles or lambe skynnes that be mete to be pulled or shorne as is aforesaid to sell the same againe untawed⁴⁹ or unwrowght contrary to the meanyng of a statute in that behalf of late made and provided.

[*In the margin* Concerninge Whyttawers, Poyntmakers and Glovers. To contynewe.]

⁴⁹ To taw = to tan or dress leather.

TEMPORE WILLELMI TUCKER
MAIORIS VO DIE OCTOBRIS ANNO
REGNI REGINE ELIZABETH ETC.
DUODECIMO

Memorandum that the daie and yere abovewrytten it was ordayned and agreed by the worshipfull Mr. Willyam Tucker, Maior of the cytie of Bristowe, the Aldermen, Shiriffes and Comon Counsell that from hensfourth at all tymes when the Aldermen do come to sitt in the Guyhalde with Mr. Maior or in the Tolsey or in the Councell Howse that they shall comme decentlie in their tyyppettes of blacke velvette and weare them both at their commyng to the said places and at their retornying home againe and at other convenyent tymes when they shall company Mr. Maior to sermons, buryalles, weddynges and other solempne assemblies.

[*In the margin* Wering of tippetes for aldermen. Repealed.]

Folio 28 ULTIMO DIE OCTOBRIS ANNO REGNI
DOMINE NOSTRE ELIZABETH ETC.
DUODECIMO

Memorandum that the daye and yeare abovewritten it is accorded and agreed by the right worshippefull William Tucker, Maior of the Citye of Bristoll, the Aldermen and others of the Commen Counsell of the same, that the wollen drapers of this cyte shalbe a company and feloweshippe together, for so many articles as shalbe agreed upon the moste parte of the Comen Counsell.

[*In the margin* Vacat. Voyde.]

Item it was ordeyned and established by the said Mr. Maior, Aldermen and others of the Commen Counsell that every freeholder that oweth suyte to the⁵⁰ lawe dayes holden in this cyte that shall make deafulde of apparraunce at any lawe daye hereafter to be holden in this cyte, shall for every suche defaulte be amerced at two shillings. And every other inhabitant beinge no freeholder so makinge defaulte at the lawe daye shall for every defaulte be amerced at twelve pence. And further that every person inhabitinge in this cyte that shalbe sommonyde to appeare upon any jurye at the quarter sessions or any other jurye, and shall not appeare beinge thrise called after Mr. Maior be sett in the courte, or Mr. Shiryfes in their court, so that there shall not appeare a full jurye at the thirde callinge at the fardiste, every of the jurors that shall make default shall lose twelve pence in issues for every suche defaulte to be levied and gathered forthwith withoute any mittigacion or favour to be showed in this behalf. And further it is likewise ordeyned that all suche issues and amerciamentes which shalbe forfeited and loste in the courtes to be holden before Mr. Mayor and the Aldermen or before Mr. Mayor and the Cunstable of the Staple beinge estreted fourthe shalbe collectede and gathered by one of Mr. Mayors foure serjantes by him to be appointede yearelie for that purpose. And the saide foure serjantes shall have fyve shillings of the pounce of all sommes of money so levied and collected. And Mr. Shiryfes for the

⁵⁰ *To the repeated.*

tyme beinge to have the residewe. And in Mr. Sheryfes court one of ther serjantes by them to be appointed shall yearlie collect and gather the issues and amerciamentes loste and forfeited in that courte, and the serjantes of that courte shall have like rewarde of fyve shillinges of every pounce so collected.

[*In the margin* Amersimentes for not comyng to the Hall. To contynewe.]

XXIIJCIO DIE NOVEMBRIS ANNO
REGNI DOMINE NOSTRE ELIZABETHE
ETC. DECIMOTERCIO

Memorandum that the daye and yeare above written it is ordeyned and agreed by the worshippefull William Tucker, Maior of the citey of Bristoll, the Aldermenn and others of the Commen Counsell beinge then and ther assembled, that ther shoulde be suyte made to the Lordes of the Counsell to take the Queens customes of this porte of Bristoll in farme to the Maior and Cominaltie of this citey. To the which intende twentie and seven of the saide Counsell did gyve their voyces, and diveres of the risidewe affirminge that they likede well therof and woulde gyve their voyces accordinge yf they hadde not passed their promysse otherwise before they knewe any suche suyte shoulde be made for the Chamber.

[*In the margin* Vacat. For farminge of the coustome house. Voide.]

Folio 28v XIIIJTO DIE DECEMBRIS ANNO REGNI
REGINE ELIZABETHE XIIJO

Item yt is ordeyned by the said Maior, Aldermen and most parte of the Comen Counsell of the saide cite which weare then present, that the wives of all those that have byn Maiors and Sheriffes of this cite shall have skarlett gownes and weare the same upon the solemppe festivall daies when their husband weare skarlett. Upon paine that every of their husbandes whose wiffes shall do the contrarye shall forfeite the like some for their wives as is provided for them selffes for not wearinge skarlett at tymes for them appoynted.

[*In the margin* Cownsellis wyffes to were skarlett. Nota bene pro honore et reverentia civitatis.]

Item that no burges of this cite shall buy any kynde of marchantdisys or other wares within the liberties of this cite or elsewhere for any stranger or forrener other then such burgesses that be able them selves to pay for the same, and shall buy it for their own accompte. Upon paine that he that shall so buy to sell againe to forriners shall forfeite xij d. for every pounce, the one halff to Mr. Maior and the Aldermen and thother half to the Chamber of this cite, provided that everie burges of this cite may buy one for an other as they did before.

[*In the margin* Deceytfull bying of warrs with strangers. To contynewe.]

Item that all ledd broughte to this cite of foriners goodes shall be broughte to the Backe Hall there to be sold and non to remayne at the gates any longer tyme then the same may be conveniently broughte to the Back Hall. Upon paine to forfeite for every tonne otherwise bought vj s. viij d. to the Chamber of this cite.

[*In the margin* For ledd. Repeld.]

XVJ JANUARIJ ANNO REGNI REGINE

ELIZABETHE XIIJO

Ad hunc diem Willelmus Tucker Maior Aldermanni vicecomites et alij de Comuni Consilio eligerunt Edwardum Dowtinge in officium comunis attornati et subvicecomitis civitatis Bristollie. Prout Robertus Smithes prius habuit predicta officia.

[*In the margin* Edward Dowlinge chosen to be undershreve. Voyd.]

XO DIE JUNIJ PREDICTI ANNO

It is ordeyned and decreed by the said Maior, Aldermen, Sheriffes and Commen Counsell *Folio* 29 of the saide cite of Bristowe, that the companies of sciences and artes of Tylers, Carpenters and Masons shall be fromhensforthe dissolved, and that all ordinances and orders mande [*sic*] for the same companies or for any of them shall be voyde and of non effecte. And they and all persons of those sciences to be at large as they weare before they weare made a companie or societie, any thing to them or any of them heretofore graunted under the comon seale of the saide cite of Bristowe notwithstandinge.

[*In the margin* Desolvyd the corporacion of Masons, Carpinters and Tyllars. Tylores. Masons. Voyd.]

Also Mr. Maior did open before the residewe of the Comon Counsell that he was informed that Mr. Thomas Chester hadd movid certeyne of the Lordes of the Privie Counsell to have resonable articles drawn as well for the norishinge of amytie betwene the marchantes of this cite, and other inhabitantes of the same, as for makeinge and concludinge of good orders for the common welthe and profett of the same cite.⁵¹

[*In the margin* Voyd.]

Item it is consented and agreed upon by the said Maior and others of the Common Counsell whose names are hereunder writen, that there shall be a bonde made in the name of the Maior and Comonialtie of the cite of Bristowe and sealed with the common seale of the said cite, to save harmlesse Phillippe Langley and others that stand bound with him to the Lordes of the Counsell at the last parliament to abyde theire order concerning the trade of marchandize of Bristowe, no merchant admytted or allowyd.⁵²

[*In the margin* Voyd.]

Mr. William Tucker, Maior	John Roberttes
David Harris	Thomas Yonge
William Pepwall	Edmund Jones
Roger Jones	Thomas Slocumbe
John Barnes vicecomites	John Jones
John Griffithhe	Phillip Langley
John Pruett	Thomas Kyrckland

⁵¹ This concerns the repeal of the 1566 Act confirming the Letters Patent granted to the Merchant Venturers by Edward VI. It reflects a struggle between professional merchants and the wealthier retailers who did not want to be excluded from foreign trade. See Patrick McGrath, *The Merchant Venturers of Bristol*, 1975, Chapter 2.

⁵² *No merchant admytted or allowyd* in different hand and ink.

Michael Sowdley
John Wade
Thomas Colston

William Yemans
Nicholas Blake
Edwarde Porter

Folio 29v XXO JUNIJ ANNO PREDICTO

It is agreed by the saide Mr. Maior, Aldermen, Sheriffes, and Common Counsell of the saide cite of Bristowe, that suche reasonable somes of money as may be conveniently spared of the moneyes remayninge to the hospitalls of the Trinitie at Laffardes Yate, and iij Kinges of Cullen, shall be lent to Mr. Halton, nowe Chamberlen, to buyld a newe tenement, and the corne and meale markett in Wynestrete (he to be bound by obligacon for the repayment thereof at resonable daies.

[*In the margin* Voyd.]

Item it is also by them consented, that if the Maior and Aldermen can borowe money of the companies of the craftes of this cite to provide for stone cole for the poore people of this cite to buy, then that the Chamberlen shall be bound for the repaymentt thereof, and shall have the sellinge of the same cole and receive the money and be coumptable for the same.

[*In the margin* To borrow mony to buy stone coles for the poore. Voyd.]

PRIMO DIE SEPTEMBRIS ANNO REGNI
REGINE ELIZABETH ETC.
TERCIODECIMO

It is ordayned that aswell the nomynacon of the three persons whereof one shalbe chosen to be Mayor of this worshipfull cytie for the yere then next folowing as also the choosing and eleccyon of the said Maior shalbe onely on the morowe after the feaste of the Exaltacon of the Holie Crosse and at noe other tyme at the which tyme and daye the Mayor and other officers of the said cytie have tyme owte of mynde benne chosen, any thing in any former ordynance or other matter to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

[*In the margin* The election of the Mayor. To contynew.]

Memorandum where at an assemble of the Common Counsell of the cytie holden the xijth daie of September in the twelveth yere of the raigne of our soveraigne ladye Quene Elizabeth, Mr. Thomas Chester, then being Mayor of this cytie, itt was then and there ordayned and establisshed that from thensfourthe yerelie on Saint Giles Daye there shouldbe three persons of the auncyentes and most metyste of the companye of the whole howse named and appoynted to be in the eleccion to be Mayor of this cytie for the yere then folowing, whereof the firste to be named by Mr. Mayor for the tyme being, the seconde by the Aldermen and by those that have ben Mayors of this cytie and by the Shiriffes *Folio 30* for the tyme being or by the parte of them, and the thirde by the residue of the Comon Counsell of this cytie or by the more parte of them, it is nowe resolved, concluded and agreed by Mr. Maior nowe being, the Aldermen, Shiriffes and residue of the Common Councell of this cytie being assembled this presente daye in the Councell Howse that

from hensfourth forevermore aswell the namyng and appoynting of the said three persons whereof one shalbe Maior for the yere folowing, as the electing and choosinge of the same shalbe on the morowe next after the daye of the Exaltacion of the Holie Crosse, onlie the said former ordynance or any thing therein conteyned to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding. And that the said ordynance for all other thinges therein conteyned, shall remayne and be in full force and effecte (the namynge and appoynting of the said three persons on the said daie called St. Giles Day only excepte.)⁵³

XIIJO DIE SEPTEMBRIS ANNO REGNI
REGINE ELIZABETH ETC.
TERCIODECIMO⁵⁴

At the daye above wrytten yt was consented and agreed by the worshipfull Mr. Willyam Tucker, Mayor, the Aldermen and residue of the Common Councell of this cytie, that where Willyam Wardford, one of the burgesses of this cytie, hath bowght the interest of a lease for terme of yeres of a common bruehouse standing on St. James Back, late in the tenure of Willyam Blaste, bruer, and the brwing vesselles and other the necessarye implementes to the same brwhouse belonging that for as much as that yt is good and profyttable as well for the inhabytantes of this cytie as of all other the Quenes subjectes, either repaying by sea or by land, that that and other auncyent bruehowses having good and necessary welles of swete and holsome waters should be contynued, used and occupied as common bruehowses and that the said Willyam is very well hable to furnyshe and maynteyne the said bruehowse with all thinges necessary for the same and to serve the inhabytantes of this cytie and other thither repaying with good and holsome bere at such reasonable price as shalbe appoynted and sett by Mr. Mayor and the Justices for the tyme being according to the lawes and statutes of this realme and⁵⁵ according to the ordinaunce made for common brwers within this cytie. That is, he, the said Willyam Wardford, maye by the lawes and statutes of this realme be a common brwer and use and occupie that scyence that then he shalbe permytted and allowed to be one of the common bruers of this cytie aslong as he shall dwell in the said bruehowse and use himself well and lawfullie in occupying the same scyence, as far fourthe as the lawes and statutes of the realme doe permytt, the same and no otherwise.

TEMPORE MAIORATUS JOHANNES
STONE TER MAIORIS XXXO DIE
APRILIS ANNO REGINE ELIZABETH
ETC. XIIIJO.

⁵³ The difference would appear to be that both the choosing of the three candidates and the election of the Mayor should now both take place on the same day, 15th September.

⁵⁴ The entry for 13th September, 13th Elizabeth, is on an extra sheet (paper not parchment) stitched to fo. 30, and should obviously have appeared after the last item, thus making the supposition that this book is a fair copy more likely.

⁵⁵ *According . . . realme and repeated.*

It is agreed by the said Maior, Aldermen and Common Councell of the said cytie or by the moste parte of them that for the bearinge of the charge layde owte by Mr. Phillippe Langley for the repealinge of a statute made for the confirmacion of the Merchauntes Corporacion there shalbe a taxe or common paymente levied of the inhabitaunts of this cytie of viij d. in the pownde. Not executyd.⁵⁶

[*In the margin Voyd.*]

XXO JUNII ANNO PREDICTO

Memorandum that the daye and yere above wrytten it is agreed by the worshipfull Mr. John Stone, Mayor of the cytie of Bristowe, the Aldermen, Shirifes and moste parte of the residue of the Common [*Council*] whose names ar hereafter wrytten, that Mr. Phillippe Langley shall have fyftie powndes of the Chambre of this cytie towarde the ordynarye charges by him laied owte at the last parlyament holden in the xiiijth yere of the Quenes Highnes raigne that now is, about the repealinge of the statute made in the eight yere of her raigne for the confirmacion of the Letters Pattentes of the Company of Merchauntes of this cytie, and that thirtey powndes, remaynyng in Mr. Thomas Kelkes handes shalbe parte of the said fyftie powndes and the other xx li. to be paied by the Chambre.

[*In the margin Voyd.*]

Item yt is agreed that the Chamberleynes books of accomptes which he shall yerelie make being subscribed with his owne hande shall remayne in a cheste with three lockes, whereof Mr. Mayor for the tyme being to kepe one kaye and one of the Aldermen another kaye and the thirde kaye to be kepte by one other of the Common Councell that shalbe appoynted for that purpose. And that the Chamberleyne shall kepe *Folio 30v* a booke conteynyng the foote of his yerely accomptes for his remembraunce, whereunto the Auditores for the tyme being yerely shall sette their handes, at the tyme of the deliverye uppe of the said bookes.

[*In the margin Contynew.*]

Item at this daye Mr. Thomas Kelke promised and agreed to bring in his accomptes for so much as he hath receyved or maybe be lawfullie charged withall for the money commonlie called Mr. Thornes cloth money to thentent that hereafter the same money maye remayne in the cheste called Barnstables Coffe in St. Georges Chapple within the Guylhall under the kaies of the clavingers and not to be taken owte of the same cheste withowte the consent of Mr. Mayor for the tyme being and the moste part of the Common Councell of this cytie.

[*In the margin Revocat tempore Johannes Browne maioris et in alijs.*⁵⁷ Voyd.]

Johannes Stone, Maior
David Harrys
Willelmus Pepwall
Rogerus Jones

Johannes Pruett
Michael Sowardley
Johannes Wade
Johannes Robertes

⁵⁶ *Not executyd* is in a different hand.

⁵⁷ *Et in alijs* is in a different hand.

Johannes Northall	Edmundus Jones
Anthonius Standbanck	Johannes Jones
Johannes Cutt	Philippus Langley
Willelmus Tucker	Thomas Kirklonde
Thomas Warren)	Johannes Barnes
Randulfus Hassohle)	Nicholus Blake
vicecomites	
Johannes Griffith	Edwardus Porter
Johannes Browne	Willelmus Bird

XXIIJO DIE SEPTEMBRIS ANNO REGNI
REGINE ELIZABETH ETC.
QUARTODECIMO SUPRADICTO

At this daye it is consentyd, concluded and agreed uppon by the worshipfull Mr. John Stone, Maior, Mr. Browne, Mayor electe, the Alderman and the moste parte of the Common Councell that likewise as there is an article heretofore graunted in the Towckers ordynaunce that it shoulde be lawfull for the Tuckers being freemen of this cytie to shere and cotton the clothes they make themselves, that in like manner that there shalbe an article putt in the Shermans ordynaunce of this said cytie that it shalbe lawfull for the Sheremen being freemen of this cytie to rowe, burle and rack all kynd of clothes that they make themselves, any article in the Tuckers or Shermans ordynaunce to the contrary notwithstanding.

[*In the margin* Shermen. To contynewe.]

TEMPORE MAIORATUS JOHANNIS
BROWNE XIIIJO DIE JANUARIJ ANNO
REGNI REGINE ELIZABETH ETC.
QUINTODECIMO ANNO QUE DOMINI
1572

Folio 31 Memorandum that the xiiijth daie of January in the fifteenth yere of the raigne of our soveraigne ladie Queene Elizabeth yt was ordayned, condecended, concluded and agreed by the Right Worshipfull Mr. John Browne, Mayor of the citie of Bristowe, the Aldermen and Common Councell of the same cytie that from the firste daie of Januarye laste paste, anno domine 1572, the hoopers of this citie shall make all the barrells and kynterkyns of good and seasoned tymbre and that every barrell shall conteyne xxxijti gallons and every kynterkyn xvj gallons and every virkyn viij gallons according to the statute made in the xxijth yere of the raigne of Kyng Henry the Eight uppon payne that the maker thereof to forfeite for every vessell defective iij s. iiij d. Also it is ordered and provided that all such barrells and kynterkyns and virkyns which shalbe hereafter occupied within this citie with bere or otherwise shalbe marked uppon the bulge with burned letters (that is to say) C and B joyned together for Civitas Bristollia as in the margent doth appere. And as for all other barrells and kynterkyns which shalbe occupied with bere within this citie not marked with the said two letters C and B to be of full gaige but marked with the letter G onlie. The partie that receyve the same bere shall abate for one gallon to the

brewer from tyme to tyme of every such barrell or kynterkyn marked with the said letter G after the rate of the price that they should paie for the barrell or kynterkyn. And also that the Master and Wardens of the Hoopers for the tyme being shall take yerelie theire corporall othe before the Maior of the said cytie for the tyme being for the sherch and true contentes of the said caiskes to be vewed, gaiged and marked with the markes before lymitted, the said Master and Wardens to have for the sherch and gawginge of every laste of caiskes iij d. accompting to every laste xij barrelles and two kynterkyns to the barrell and fower firkyns to the barrell, and not above, of the owners or makers of the said vesselles where the Master of the Hoopers to [have] for his paynes ij d. and the Wardens ij d. for every laste as yt is lymyted in the said statute.⁵⁸

[In the margin against 'burned letters C and B' and in the margin against 'marked with the letter G onlie' are the intertwined letters C B and letters G. Voyd.]

Folio 31v Item yt is also ordeyned that the Master of the Hoopers for the tyme being shall putt on every barrell and kynterkyn which shalbe hereafter made within this citie a burned letter begynnynng att the letter A signifie his owne juste doinges for the yere being and every yere to chaunge their letter att the chewing of the Master following the rule of the xxiiijti letters, that the order nowe begonne maye be the better performed and kepte to the profytt of the common welth. And that noe hooper or bruer within this citie shall make or counterfaite the J . . . marke⁵⁹ now provided for this citie to marke barrelles and kynterkyns to marke his or their barrelles with all other wise then is abovesaid uppon payne that every such person so offending to lose his or their liberties or fredome of this citie. And . . . t⁶⁰ yt is also provided that all such barrelles and kynterkyns that are marked with the letter G shalbe used no longer but untill the feaste of St. John Baptiste next comyng and from thensfourth the brewers not to use them nor to send them abrode with bere or ale after that tyme uppon payne to forfaite all such barrelles and kynterkyns so occupied or sent abrode and also xij d. for a fyne of every such barrell to the use of the Chambre of Bristowe.

[In the margin against 'att the letter A' A Voyd.]

XVIJO DIE APRILIS ANNO REGNI
DOMINE NOSTRE ELIZABETH REGINE
DECIMOQUINTO

It is ordayned by the worshipfull Mr. John Browne, nowe Maior of this cytie of Bristowe, and the Aldermen, Shiriffes and residue of the Common Counsell, that the Master and Keper of the Backhall of this cytie for the tyme being shall provide that a lock be sett and putt for his parte upon every sellor or wardhowse dore where any foriners or strangers goodes, wares or merchaundizes (to be browghte into this cytie) shalbe laied and bestowed in any place owte of the compasse of the Backhall aforesaid. And shall kepe the kaye thereof in his owne

⁵⁸ This ordinance is also mentioned by Ricart for the year 1573.

⁵⁹ Illegible.

⁶⁰ Illegible.

power. And that he and his assignes shalbe alwaies redye to attend whensoever he shalbe called by the owners of the said goodes or their assignes to repaire to the said sellors with them for all necessarie purposes towching the said wares and merchandizes.

[*In the margin* An order for the Bake Hawle. To contynew.]

It is also likewise agreed by the said Mr. Maior and Common Councell that Mr. Thornes cloth money shalbe delivered fourth yerelie according as heretofore yt hath ben accustomed and used. And yt to begyn att the feaste of St. Michael tharchaungell next ensuyng and not to be otherwise kepte in the Chambre of this cytie.

[*In the margin* To contynew.]

Folio 32 Item that all persons which use to make maulte wythin this cytie and liberties of the same shalbe warned by the Chamberleyne of this cytie to cease and leave of from the trade of maultmaking within the said citey and liberties thereof uppon payne that every one that shalbe proved to doe the contrary after admonicion so to be geven to him shall paye to the use of the Chambre of Bristowe xl s. for the first default, and for any such default afterwarde againe to be commytted by him to be discommoned.

[*In the margin* No man to make malt within this citie. To contynew.]

Item yt is also ordayned that every person being free of this cytie that shall hereafter be dwelling and abyding owte of the same above the space of one whole yere and a daye, excepte alwaies such persons as shalbe in the Quenes Majesties shervice, or in trade of merchaundizes beyonde the seas, or imprisoned within the realme or without, or such as have dwelling howses in their owne possessions within the liberties of this cytie and occupie the same with his owne howsholde folk and doe yerelie paye and beare the common charges and duties with other free men here contynuallie abyding doe use to beare and paie, and excepte such gentlemen and others that use not to bye and sell with foryners within the liberties of this said cytie, nor be common occupiers, nor use their accustomed trade of occupying elles where in other place, shall ymedyaltie after the said space of one whole yere and a daye stand and be discommoned and lose the⁶¹ benyfytt of his freedome of this said citie, untill such tyme as every such person shall have paid such fyne to the Chamber of this citie as shalbe sett and lymitted upon him by Mr. Maior and the Aldermen for the tyme being, or the more parte of them, and shall have also paid such arrerage of common duties and charges behinde unpaid with burgesses here resident and abyding doe use to yelde and paie.

[*In the margin* None to be admytted or accompted fremen but suche as here aperthe. To contynew.]

DECIMO DIE SEPTEMBRIS ANNO
REGNI DOMINE NOSTRE ELIZABETHE
REGINE XVTO

Memorandum yt is ordeyned by the said Mr. John Browne, Maior, the Aldermen, Sheriffes, and the moste parte of the residewe of the Common Counsell of the foresaide citie of Bristowe, that for the

⁶¹ *The repeated.*

better provision, succor and relief of the poore inhabitantes of this citie, that the some of one hundred poundes of Sir Thomas Whites money, whiche is to be delyvered fowrthe, at the feaste of Sancte Martyn the Bisshoppe next cominge, and also an other hundred poundes of the same money, whiche *Folio 32v* shall be dewe to be delyvered at the saide feaste of St. Martyn, whiche shall be in the yere of owre lorde God 1574, shall be ymployed and bestowed for the provision of corne and graine for the benefitt of the poore inhabitantes of this citie, by the order and appoyntmentt of Mr. Maior and the Aldermen for the tyme beinge, accordinge to the mynde of Sir Thomas White apperinge in the tripartite indenture thereof made. And that the three hundred poundes given by Master Robartt Thorne, to the like use, shall be recovered by the Chamberlyn of this citie for the tyme beinge owte of the handes of suche as have Mr. Thornes cloth money, and do nott ymploye and occupie the same money in makeinge true draperie and other lauffull busynes, which they be bound by their severall obligacions to do and make. And the same money to be recovered and receavid shalbe laide owte and bestowed for providinge of corne and wood, according to the good and charitable mynd of the said Mr. Robarte Thorne, whereof 1 li. of the said Mr. Thornes clothe money, which was delyvered unto Thomas Celye, shall be disbursed for the purpose aforesaid by the xxtie daye of November next comminge.

[*In the margin* This the usse of Mr. Thornes mone to be considered of.⁶² To contynewe.]

Item it is also ordeyned that no bowthes, standinges or boordes of any parson, pedlers or others (vitlers only excepte) shall be sett up or placed in the tyme of Saincte James Faire betwene Sancte Nicholas Gate and the Highe Crosse in any parte of the strete nor within xij foote of the same Crosse, but the same strete and romthe abowte the Crosse to be kepte free for the markett folkes to have their libertie and romthe there as they have on other markett dais, upon paine that every parson doinge the contrarie shall for the firste defaute be ymprisoned for the space of one whole daie. And for every defaute after shall pay to the Chamber of this citie xx s. apece for a fyne. And that from hensforthe the Sheriffes of this citie for the tyme being shall not exacte or take of any freeman of this citie for their owne standinges in Sancte James Faire, which they shall use them selffes to sell their wares in, above six pence a foote, nor to be putt from their accustomed places in the said Faire, payinge after the rate aforesaid. But when any bowthe or frame shall be sett up by any inhabitante to lett to any other repayringe to the said Faire, there the Sheriffes shall receive as the parties and they can agree (saveinge allwaies to the Chamber the advantages of ij standinges as heretofore hath byn used).

Also it is ordeyned that on the markett daies throughe owte the whole yere (after the feaste of Saincte Michael next cominge) there shall be no boordes or standinges in any parte of the Highe Strete, to

⁶² This marginal is almost illegible.

sell wares there upon the paine aforesaid (except before excepted). [*In the margin* This acte was repealed the xxiiijth daye of October 1583 in Mr. Langleys yere of his mayoraltye only as unto the Sheryves but ys in force as unto the bourdes. No bordes or standinges to be in the Highe Streat.]

Folio 33 **TEMPORE MAIORATUS THOMAS
KELKE VIIIJ DIE DECEMBRIS ANNO
REGNIS REGINE ELIZABETH ETC.
SEXTODECIMO**

Whereas in the tyme of Mr. Roger Dawes, Maior of Bristowe, at a Common Counsell holden in the xvjth daie of Octobre in the xxjti yere of the raigne of King Henry the vijth ytt was ordeyned by the said Mayor, Aldermen, Sheriffes and Common Counsell for the avoyding of striffe and controversies which then were betwene the Tuckers and Shermen of Bristowe aforesaid, that the said two companyes shoulde not intermedle the one with the others occupation as by the same ordynnce yt maye and doe more att large appere. Sythens which tyme mych newe controversies hath risen and yet doe contynewe betwene them, partlie by negligence and frindshipp as the tyme sherved, and partlie for that the Tuckers being growen to be riche and thereby to be come clothmakers above the Sherman. Ytt ys nowe ordeyned by the worshipfull Mr. Thomas Kelk, Mayor of the citie of Bristowe, the Aldermen, Sheriffes and the moste parte of the Common Councell, that the saide olde ordynaunce before made in the said Mr. Dawes yere and every parte therein conteyned to be avayleable and stande in full force and effecte. And what person or persons soever being free of the said two occupacions shall doe contrary to the same in parte or in the hoole according to the trewe meanyng thereof being dewlie provid and will not confirme himself to the same shalbe discomyned from the freedome of this citie untill he or they shall paye their fyne for their offence, and also compownde with the Maior, Aldermen and Chamberleyne for the tyme being according to their descretions for the renewing of their freedome. Provided that all other ordynaunces made syns the said olde ordynnce towching the matters conteyned in the same ordynnce shalbe utterlie voide and of noe force any thing to the contrary notwithstanding.

[*In the margin* An ordynans for the Tuckers and Shermen. This with other ordenances heretofore made to be redused into one. To contynewe.]

Folio 33v **XVO DIE DECEMBRIS ANNO REGNI
REGINE ELIZABETH ETC.
SEXTODECIMO SUPRADICTO**

Whereas in the tyme of Mr. John Cutt, then being Maior, an ordynaunce was made by the consent of the hoole Counsell and ordeyned that noe person or persons of the crafte of Sopemaking or any other shall at any tyme hereafter convey or cary by water, or caste or laie or cause to be caried, laied or cast, any sope asshes, either in the said ryver or any parte thereof, or within one hundred foote of the full sea marke, with a provison that yt shalbe lawfull to

the said sope makers to laie their sope asshes in their backsides or howses for a tyme, till the same mayght be conveyentlie removed and caried awaye, ytt ys this daie condesented, concluded and agreed by Mr. Thomas Kelke, Maior of the citie of Bristowe aforesaid, the Aldermen and the most parte of the Common Counsell that the said recited ordynance and every branch there in conteyned shalbe from hensfourth repealed and utterlie voide. And that yt is nowe ord-eyned, concluded and agreed by the said Maior, Aldermen and residue of the Common Counsell that from hensfourth noe sopemaker of this citie or any other for them shall caste or laie any sope asshes in their backsides towards the river of this citie, but shall laie or caste the same elles where. Whereas the said sope asshes shalbe halled and caried to such places as yt maie not be laied within one hundred foote of the full sea mark nor on the Kinges high waye to anoye they which doe resort or come to this citie and markett. And whosoever shall offende and doe contrarye to the true meanyng hereof shall forfait and paie fyve powndes att every tyme being duly proved. And also that every lyghter man within this river that shall carye in his or their lighters any sope asshes contrary to the forme aforesaid shall forfait and paie for every offence xx s. And whosoever canne with due proffe present and approve the same before Mr. Maior for the tyme being shall have for his presentment x s. to be paid by the Chamberleyne of the said citie for the tyme being, with forfeitures to be made as ys aforesaid shalbe paid to the use of the Chambre of Bristowe.

[*In the margin* For sope asshs not to be put in the bake syde of howses. To be contynewed.]

DUODECIMO DIE JANUARIJ ANNO
REGNI REGINE ELIZABETH ETC.
SEXTODECIMO

It ys ordayned and agreed by the worshipfull Mr. Thomas Kelke, Maior of the citie of Bristowe, the Aldermen, Shiriffes and residue of the Common Counsell of this citie that from hensfourth the Shriffes of this citie for the tyme being shall geve such lyveries to the officers of this citie which shalbe for the worshipp of the same cytie, that is to saie to such of them which have used to have the gentlemens lyverye, every of them fower yards of *Folio* 34 brode cloth worth tenne shillinges the yarde and to Mr. Mayors and Mr. Sheriffes serjantes and to the Towne Clarke and Stewardes clarke and to others that have used to have the like lyveries vij s. vj d. the yarde, and to the residue of the officers and the porters, Mr. Shiriffes yomen, the wayters and others that have used to have the courser lyverye worth six shillinges the yarde and that Mr. Shiriffes for the tyme being, after there clothes sherving for the lyverie be redie wrowghte and dressed, shall present the same before Mr. Mayor and the Aldermen for the tyme being for them to judge whether the same clothes be of the value aforesaid or noe. And that all ordynaunces heretofore made concernyng the officers lyveries shalbe voide and repealed.

[*In the margin* For lyverys for the Shryves sergantes and other. To contynew.]

And also yt is agreed and concluded by the said Mr. Mayor and Councell that the cloth that was showed in the Councell Howse was not a mete lyverye to be worne by Mr. Mayores serjantes to wayte uppon Mr. Mayor.

[*In the margin Voyd.*]

Also yt is agreed by the said Mr. Mayor and moste parte of the Common Councell that Mr. Porter, the Shiriffe, for mysusing of himself before Mr. Mayor, the Aldermen and Common Councell shall paye fyve powndes for a fyne to the Chamber of this citie to be payd by him.⁶³

[*In the margin Voyd.*]

QUARTO DIE FEBRUAIJ ANNO REGNI
REGINE ELIZABETH ETC. XVJO

At this daie it is ordeyned by the worshipfull Mr. Thomas Kelk, Mayor, the Aldermen, Shiriffes and the residue of the Common Counsell assembled together to treate of matters towching the wealth of the inhabytantes of this citie and of the repairers hither, that the busshelles waightes and measures used in this citie shalbe made according to the statute provided in that behalf and that there be not duble measures suffred to remayne in this cytie and that there shalbe iiijor honest and credyble persons chosen by Mr. Mayor and Aldermen of this citie for the tyme being in every warde of this citie who shalbe sworne trulie to vewe and serch all the busshelles waightes and measures thorowgh all this *Folio 34v* cytie and the liberties thereof and where they shall finde any unjust waightes and measures not agreeable to the statute, they shall present the same before Mr. Maior and the Aldermen to be ordred and used according to the lawe. And that there be an honest expert man, being a burgesse of this citie, appoynted by Mr. Maior and the Aldermen to measure the wheate and rye browght hither by water or in waynes to this citie indifferntlie betwene the buyer and seller, so that the buyer maye have his true measure as nigh to the waight prescribed in the statute as the measurer can judge in his conscience and that the same serche shalbe made by the same iiij persons or by two of them at the leaste twice in the yere when they shalbe appoynted by Mr. Maior and Aldermen and to contynue for one hoole yere.

[*In the margin* For measures and waightes. To contynew.]

TEMPORE MAIORATUS GEORGIJ
SNYGGE ANNO REGNI DOMINE
REGINE ELIZABETH ETC. XVJTO,
XXVJTO DIE OCTOBRIS ANNO
DECIMOSEXTE SUPRADICTO

Memorandum that the daye and yere abovesaid yt is fullie and absolutlie ordayned, consented and agreed by the worshipfull Mr. George Snygge, Mayor, Aldermen and residue of the Common

⁶³ A little more light is thrown on this incident in *Adams' Chronicle of Bristol*, ed. F.F. Fox, 1910, p. 114: 'The mayor for some distaste commanded the Sheriffs to prison. Mr. Bird yielded and went thither, but Mr. Porter stood out and would not go, alleging the prison was his, being Kings Sherif, and not the mayors.'

Counsell being assembled together in the howse of the Common Counsell, that where heretofore Thomas Baldwyn, bruer, was for his disorder dismyssed from the freedome and liberties of this cytie, and yet notwithstanding for certen respectes and upon hope of his well using himself, was permytted and suffered to enyoie the benyfit of his freedome againe. Sythens which tyme he, the said Thomas Baldwyn, not considering the dutie of a burgesse or freeman, nor the great favor of him showed as ys afore rehercyd, hath againe comytted the like mysorderes as he before did and hath refucid to observe the good orders and ordynaunces of this cytie. That therefore the said Thomas Baldwyn shalbe from hensfourth discomonyd and be noe lenger a burgesse of this cytie.

[*In the margin* Thomas Baldwyn discomonyd. Voyd.]

Folio 35 Item yt is further ordred, concluded and agreed for the avoiding of divers and manifold hurtes and inconveniencies that hath heretofore growen with in this cytie by reason of brewing and selling of strong ale and bere with in this cytie and the subburbes thereof, that from hensfourth none of the common brewers of bere and ale within this cytie or liberties thereof nor any other person or persons whatsoever shall brewe any bere or ale above ij d. the gallon (excepte other order and rates be sett by Mr. Mayor and the Aldermen of this cytie) uppon payne that every person so offending for the first tyme shall forfaite xl s. and for the second tyme shall suffer imprisonment of their bodyes by the space of tenne daies by the discrecion of Mr. Mayor and the Aldermen and for the thirde tyme offending to be discommonyd, any former ordynaunces heretofore made to the contrary shalbe from hensfourth repealed and of none effecte.

[*In the margin* Towching strong ale or bere. To contynewe.]

SECUNDO DIE MARTIJ ANNO REGNI

REGINE ELIZABETH ETC.

DECIMOSEPTIMO

Att this daie yt is ordayned and agreed by the worshipfull Mr. George Snygge, Maior, the Aldermen, Shiriffes and the residue of the Comon Cuncell, whereas John Alkyn, sopemaker, before this tyme uppon sundry his mysdenores, was discomenyd and putt from the liberties and fredome of this cytie, that the said John Alkyn, in consideracion that he hath submytted himself before the said Maior and Aldermen, and shall paie for his fyne iiij li., shalbe imedyntlie restored againe to the liberties of this citie as aburgesse thereof from hensfourth, which fyne of iiij li. shalbe paid to the Chambre of this citie, but the said John Alkyn to be thereof allowed of iij li. and odd money which he paid for the full payment of the laste fifteins.

[*In the margin* John Alkym admitted into the liberties. Voyd.]

Folio 35v XVTO DIE APRILES ANNO REGNI

REGINE ELIZABETH ETC. XVIJO

Memorandum that the daie and yere above wrytten yt is condiscended, ordayned and agreed by the full consent and graunt of the worshipfull Mr. George Snigg, Maior, Aldermen and the most parte

⁶⁴ See *The Great White Book*, *op. cit.*, pp. 124-131.

of the residue of the Comon Counsell of the citie of Bristowe whose names are hereunder written, that Willyam Saxcye, gentleman, shall from hensfourth have, exercise and enyoie the office of Towneclark, within the said cytie with all the fees, lyveries, duties and profittes whatsoever to the same belonging. And also shall from hensfourth have, exercise and enyoie the office of stewardshippe or keping of the courtes of all and singuler the mannores, landes, tenementes and hereditates of the Maior and Cominaltye of the same cytie or of any feoffees in truste to thuse of the said Maior and Comonialtye with all the fees, duties and profittes whatsoever to the same belonging, to have, exercise and enyoie to him, the said William Saxcey, so longe as he shall well and sufficientlie exercise the same.

[*In the margin* Mr. Willyam Saxcey chosen Towneclarke. Voyd.]

Georgius Snigg, Maior	Thomas Aldworth
Robertus Saxcye	Walterus Pikes
Johannes Stone	Thomas Kirkclond
David Harrys	Ricardus Young
Johannes Cutt	Thomas Rowland
Anthonius Standbanck	Ricardus Cole
Willelmus Tucker	Willelmus Hikes
Johannes Browne	Johannes Barnes
Thomas Kelk	Thomas Warren
Willelmus Saltren	Randulfus Hassaldes
Robertus Halton	Willelmus Gyttons
Johannes Griffith	Robertus Kytchin
Johannes Pruett	Edwardus Porter
Michael Sowdley	Willelmus Birde
Thomas Colston	Nicholus Blake
Johannes Jones	Michael Pepwall
Philippus Langley	Thomas Deconson
	Johannes Ashe

Yt is also ordeyned and agreed uppon by the said Maior, Aldermen and Common Councell that Mr. Willyam Tucker, Mr. Thomas Kelk, Mr. Roberte Halton, Mr. William Gittons, Mr. Thomas Deconson, being of the said Common Councell and William Saxcey, Towneclark, shall fourthwith by this order have full power and authoretie to vewe and peruse the booke of orders made by the Commen Councell of this cytie towching thadmyssion of straungers or foriners into the liberties of this citie and to tax and cesse what fynes shalbe paid by them for their admission into the liberties of the said citie which orders so by them made shalbe from thensfourth available.

[*In the margin* Towching admission of foriners to be burgesses. Voyd.]

Folio 36 TERCIO DIE MAII ANNO REGNI
 REGNINE ELIZABETH
 DECIMOSEPTIMO

Att this daye yt ys ordayned and agreed uppon by the worshipfull Mr. George Snigg, Maior, Aldermen, Shiriffes and the residue of the Common Councell that suyte shalbe made fourthwith to the Quenes

Highnes for the obteyning of a perpetuall exemcion of this cite of Bristowe from the jurisdiction of the Councell of the Marches of Wales, the same to be hadd under the Great Seale of England.

[*In the margin* Towching a perpetuall exemcon from the Marches. Voyd.]

Item yt is ordayned and establishedd that after the feaste of Penticoste next comyng yf any fyre doe appere flamyng owt of any parte of any howse within the said cytie of Bristowe or the subburbes of the same, that the owner thereof shall forfait and paie for every such offence, defalte or negligence vj s. viij d. to thuse of the Chambre.

[*In the margin* For fier flamyng owt of mens howses. Contynew.]

XIJO DIE JULIJ ANNO SUPRADICTO

Memorandum the daie and yere abovesaid it is ordayned, concluded and agreed uppon by the full consent of the worshipfull Mr. George Snigg, Maior, Aldermen and the residue of the Common Councell then being in the Councell Howse whose names are subscribed, that noe person or persons being foryner and noe burgesse, neither borne free nor deserved the same by shervice of apprentishipp nor have any cause to clayme the same by mariage of fremens widdowes or dowghters, shalbe admitted unto the freedom of this cytie under the some of thirte powndes by by such person to be paied to the use of the Chambre. And that all and every husbond or husbondes which any freemans dowghter shall lawfully marye shall have his freedome for fower shillinges and sixpence, be he a craftes man or noe. And also that all and every husbond or husbondes which any freemans widowe and relicte and not free borne shall afterwarde lawfully mary shall have his freedome for fortye fower shillinges and sixpence.

[*In the margin* For making of strangers free. Voyd. *Struck through* To be considered of.]

Item yt is also ordayned that after the feaste of St. Bartholmewe next comyng noe howse, roofe, or pentice with in the walls of this cytie of Bristowe shalbe covered with reade or thatche uppon payne that the same shalbe pulled downe and *Folio 36v* and taken awaie by the comaundement of the Maior of the cytie of Bristowe for the tyme being.

[*In the margin* Noe howse or pentice within this cytty to be covered with reades or thatche. To contynew.]

Georgius Snygg, Maior	Thomas Aldworth
Robertus Saxey	Dominicus Chester
Thomas Chester	Thomas Kirkland
David Harrys	Ricardus Young
Thomas Kelk	Thomas Rowland
Johannes Browne	Ricardus Cole
Willelmus Saltre	Willelmus Hickes
Robertus Halton	Johannes Barnes
Johannes Griffith	Thomas Warren
Thomas Colston	Randulfus Hassald

Johannes Robertes
 Thomas Younge
 Thomas Slocombe
 Philippus Langley

Robertus Kitchin
 Edwardus Porter
 Willelmus Birde
 Nicholaus Blake
 Johannes Ashe

Memorandum that the daie and yere above wrytten an ordynance was made and enacted by the Common Counsell of this cytie towching orphanes as doth appere in the White Book, folio CCCxiiijto.⁶⁴

TEMPORE MAIORATUS JOHANNIS
 PREWETT OCTAVO DIE FEBRUARIJ
 ANNO REGNI REGINE ELIZABETHE
 ETC. DECIMO OCTAVO

For avoidinge of disorder and vexacon throughe foreigne suites and proces to be procured or purchased by one burgesse against an other, and for the maintenance of the franchises and libertyes of this citie, in that behaulf be yt ordyned and enacted, that – no burgesse of this citie shall sue or impleade, vex or molest anie other burges of the same citie in anie courte owte of the jurisdiccion and libertyes of this city or by anie proces to be purchased or obtained oute of anie coorte withoute the liberties of this city for anie matter, cawse or demaunde, wherof he may have sufficient remeady within the liberties of this citie uppon paine to forfeit to the Chamber for the firste offence x li., for the second offence xx li., and for the thirde offence to be discommened and excluded from the libertyes of this citie. Provided all waies that yf anie burgesse of this citie against whom anye other burgesse of the same cytye hath or at anie tyme *Folio 37* heerafter shall have cause of accion, suite or demaunde do or shall withdraw him or her self oute of the libertyes of this citie or make his or her tarieng or aboade in anie other place or places within the Queens domynyons or ells wheare, so that he or she may not or cannot be attached by saine process to be awarded oute of any of the courtes within the libertyes of this citie, or do or shall keepe his or her howse or so absent him or her self that he or she cannot be attached by saine proces to be awarded oute of any courtes within the libertyes of this citie (except yt be by reason of siknes to be proved by deposicion before the Maior and one Alderman), and the same burgesse, complainaunte or partie greved come into the place of audience called the Tollsey and there do depose or offer and be readie to depose uppon the Holly Evangelistes that in consideracion of the premysses he thinketh in his conscience that the said burgesse against whome he hath such cause of accion, suite or demaunde and doth so withdraw or absent him self cannot (in respect of his absence) be attached and thereby compelled to answere the lawe in anie courte within this citie – that then the said partie so deposed or which shall offre and be ready to be deposed shall and maye lawfully at his liberty and choyce sue and impleade the same other burgesse ellswhere out

⁶⁴ See *The Great White Book*, *op. cit.*, pp. 124–131.

of the jurisdiccio and libertyes of this citee.

[*In the margin* Forren suyt between burgesses upon paine of x li. So as the defendante may not . . . ⁶⁵ yt without the licke paine.]

Johannes Prewett, Maior	Thomas Kircklond
Robertus Saxey	Richardus Cole
Thomas Chester	Johannes Barnes
David Harreys	Thomas Warren
Thomas Kelke	Randulfus Hassold
Johannes Browne	Willelmus Gittons
Willelmus Tucker	Robertus Kitchinge
Georgius Snigg	Willelmus Burd
Nicholaus Blake et)	Willelmus Salterne
Michael Pepwall)	Robertus Hallton
vicecomites	
Johannes Wade	Willelmus Hopkins
Thomas Colston	
Johannes Robartes	
Thomas Younge	
Edmundus Jones	
Thomas Alldwoorth	

Folio 37v DECIMO DIE APRIL ANNO REGNI
REGINE ELIZABETHE DECIMO
OCTAVO ET TEMPORE JOHANNIS
PREWETT MAIORIS

For the avoyding of large estates and long leases to be made of the manores, landes, tenementes and hereditaments of the landes and possessions of the Mayor and Comynalty of this cytee, or being in the handes or possession of any feoffees for and to the behooff of the said Mayor and Comynalty, be yt enacted, that from hencefoorth no lease, gift, graunt, feoffment, conveyance or estate, shalbe made, had, donne or suffred, by the Mayor and Conynalty of the said cytee, or by their successores for the time being, or by such feoffees in trust or any of them, by and with the consent of the Mayor for the time being to any person or persons or bodies politticke or corporate, of any manores, landes, tenementes or hereditamentes of the sayd Mayor and Comynalty, or of any feoffees for the behooff of the said Mayor and Comynalty, or of any part theroff (except howses, gardens and backsydes with thappertenaunces scytuate and being within the liberties of this cytee) or other then for the terme of twenty one yeers or three lyves from the time that any such lease or graunt shalbe made or graunted, or by copy of court roll according to the custome of the manor, wheruppon the accustomed yeerly rentes and services or more shalbe reserved to become yeerly due and payable during such estates. And further that fromhencefoorth no lease, gift, graunt, feoffment, conveyance or estate shalbe made, hadd, donne or suffred of any manor, lordshippes, ryallties or libertyes, or of any revercion or revercions of any lordshippes, manor, landes, tenemen-

⁶⁵ Illegible, possibly *remove*.

tes or hereditamentes of the said Mayor and Comynalty, or of any feoffes for the behooff of the said Mayor and Comynalty, by the consent of the Mayor for the tyme being. Upon paine that the Mayor for the time being shall lose and forfayt for every time that he shall consent to any such graunt to be made contrary to the true entent and meaning of this act one hundred poundes to the use of the Chamber. And upon paine that all and every person and persons for the time being of the Common Counsell of this cytee, and all and every such feoffees and feoffee of any such manors, landes, tenementes and hereditamentes in trust as aforesayd, which shall at any time heerafter by *Folio* 38 any overt act or deede or speeche go about to procure or perswade the Maior, Alderman and the rest of the Common Counsell of this cytee, or any of them, to make any estate or graunt contrary to this ordinaunce, or shall willingly geve his consent to the making or graunting of any estate contrary to any poynt or article of this act, shall for every such offence forfayt and lose the some of twenty poundes to the use of the Chamber.

[*In the margin several faded and illegible lines To contynew.*]

John Prewett, Maior	Philip Langley
David Harris	Thomas Aldworth
Thomas Kelke	Thomas Kirkland
John Browne	Thomas Rowland
William Tucker	Rychard Cole
George Snigg	John Barnes
Nicholas Blake	Thomas Warren
Mychael Pepwall	Ranulphe Hassold
John Griffyth	William Gyttons
John Wade	William Burde
John Robertes	William Saltern
Thomas Young	Robert Halton
Thomas Slocombe	Thomas Deconson

The same xth day of Aprill by the consent aforesaid weare chosen assistauntes in causes of Orphanes videlicet Mr. Tucker, Mr. Wade and Mr. Warren, to sytt upon the same every Tuisday and Thursday in the afternoone. Thes to contynue assistauntes untill the next day of eleccion.

[*In the margin* Assistentes in causes of Orphans. Voyd.]

DIE MARTIS DECIMO DIE JULIJ ANNO
REGNI REGINE ELIZABETH DECIMO
OCTAVO

It is innacted that no burgess of this citie shall weare the lyvery of any lorde gentleman or other parson or parsons contrarye to the oulde othe of a burgess allreadye agreed upon, uppon paine of discominge forever with oute redempcion as a straunger, this to be donne before the xxth daye of July next.

[*In the margin* None to weare any lordes livery. To contynewe according to the . . . ⁶⁶]

⁶⁶ Illegible.

Folio 38v And further it is inacted that Mr. Aldwoorth and Mr. Byrde shall from hensforthe have the dealinge for the receipte and delyverye oute of Mr. Thornes money and Sir Thomas Whites money and to receave sufficiente assuraunce for the same and to see the performinge thereof accordinge to the mynde of the gyvere and suche of the said moneys as Mr. Chamberlayne hathe together with all the obligacions concerninge the same shalbe delyvered up by Mr. Chamberlayne to them, the said Mr. Aldwoorth and Mr. Byrde, as soon as he comethe home from London and the bandes and obligacions concerninge the same to remayne in a chest in Sainte Georges Chappell under twoe keyes which shall remayne in their custodie.

[*In the margin* Concerninge Mr. Thornes and Sir Thomas Whites money. Voyed.]

John Prewett, Maior	Phillip Langley
Robert Saxey	Thomas Aldworthe
Thomas Chester	Thomas Kyrklande
David Haries	Thomas Rowlande
Thomas Kelke	John Barnes
Johannes Browne	Thomas Warren
Anthonye Standbank	Ranulphe Hassolde
William Tucker	William Gittons
George Snigg	William Byrde
Nicholas Blake)	William Saltern
Michael Pepwall)	John Ashe
vicecomites	
John Wade	Richard Ashurst
Thomas Colston	William Hopkyns
Thomas Younge	
Thomas Slocombe	
John Jones	

TEMPORE JOHANNIS WADE MAIORIS
XVIJO DIE NOVEMBR ANNO REGNI
REGINE ELIZABETH DECIMO NONO

Memorandum the day and yeere abovesaid yt was fully concluded and agreed by the right worshopfull John Wade, Maior, the Aldermen, Sherives and residue of the Common Counsell then assembled whose names are underwrytten, that Henry Slye, sopemaker, for his disobedience and contempt towards Mr. Maior and his brethren shalbe from henceffoorth discomuned and excluded from the liberties of this cytee. And afterward afterward at the speciall request of Mr. Recorder, reported by Mr. Chamberlaine, the said Henry Slye the iiijth of December 1576 was freely remytted to his liberty againe.

[*In the margin* Voyed.]

Folio 39

John Wade, Mayor	Thomas Slocombe
Robert Saxey	John Jones

David Harris	Philip Langley
Thomas Kelke	Thomas Aldwoorth
John Browne	Richard Cole
Anthony Standbanck	William Hickes
William Tucker	Thomas Warren
John Prewett	Ranulphe Hassald
John Ashe	Edward Porter
Richurd Ashurst	William Burd
Thomas Colston	William Hopkins
John Robertes	Walter Standfast

TEMPORE JOHANNIS WADE, MAIORIS
XXVJTO DIE FEBRUARIJ ANNO REGNI
REGINE ELIZABETH, DECIMO NONO⁶⁷

Wheare before this tyme, by reason that broade wollen clothes, kersies, frizes and all other wollen clothes have ben brought within the liberties of this city out of the counties of Somer, Wiltes and Glouces and other partes of this realme and Wales and harboured and lodged in the housses of the burgesses or inhabitantes of this city and not brought to the Backhaull accordinge to the auncient usages of the same citeye, whereby have ensued diverse inconveniences to the hurte of the whole state thereof by foreiner buyenge and sellinge to the decay of the greater company of poore artificers, shermen and tuckers within the same, by reason that the woorkmanshipp of such clothes hath been brought into the handes of a few and also by the hydinge and coulloringe of defaultes in such clothes to the utter discredit of draprye, yt is innacted that from and after the xth day of March next comminge no broade clothes, kersies, Welsh frizes or any other wollen cloth or clothes whatsoever shalbe brought unto this city or within the liberties of the same by any person or persons but the same shall first be harboured and lodged in the said Backhaull, for which the duties shalbe paied to the Master of the said Backhaull after the auncyent rates accustomed. And before the same clothes or any of them shalbe had out of the same Backhaull by pretence of any sale of them made before they were brought to this city, the buyer or seller of the same clothes shall personally come before Mr. Maior and the Aldermen of this city sittinge in the Towlsey. And then and there shall take his othe that such clothes weare rerely bought and sould at suche place without the liberties of this citeye before the same clothes were brought to this citeye or within the liberties thereof. And that from and after the said xth day of March next cominge no person or persons inhabitinge within this citeye shall receave, harbour or lodge or suffer to be receaved, harboured or lodged any the said wollen cloth or *Folio* 39^v clothes within any their shoppes, warehousses or other roome or roomes within their housse or housses, nor shall suffer any manner of person or persons whatsoever he bee free or foreiner to buy or sell any the said broade wollen clothes harboured

⁶⁷ Since the regnal year began on 18th November, this would seem to be an error, 17th November being the last day of 18th Elizabeth.

or lodged contrary to the ordinaunce aforesaid within his shopp, chamber or other place of or within any his house or houses. Uppon payne that every parson or persons that at any tyme after the xth daye of Marche next comminge shall harbour or lodge or suffer to be receaved, harboured or lodged in or into any parte of their housses or warehousses or suffer to be sould any such wollen clothe or clothes in any place within the liberties of this citey and out of the precyncte of the said Backhaull shall forfeite for every clothe so receaved, harboured, lodged or sold contrary to this ordynaunce, twenty shillinges for every broade clothe, for every kersey v s., for every Welshe frize v s., and for every other wollen cloth v s. And yt is further innacted that no person or persons which hereafter shall bringe any of the said wollen clothe or clothes to the said Backhaull to be sould shall fromhensforthe have or take the same clothe or clothes out of the said Backhaull before the same be full bought and sold (excepte the owner of the same clothe or clothes be disposed to have them and carry them away from out of the liberties of this citie unbought and unsould) upon payne that every parson and persons inhabitaunt within the liberties of this city that any tyme after the said xth daie of March next comminge shall receive, harbour or lodge or suffer to be receaved, harboured or lodged within any their housses, shoppes or warehousses any of the same clothe or clothes so taken out of the same Backhaull unbought and unsould as aforesaid shall forfait for every broade cloth so receaved, harboured or lodged contrary to the said ordynaunce twenty shillinges for every kersey, v s. for every Welshe fryze, fyve shillinges for every wollen cloth. The forfaytures to be devidid, the first parte to the Maior and Aldermen, the second to the Chamber and the thirde parte to that parson or persons that shall make presentment and due prooffe thereof before Mr. Maior and Aldermen. Provided that it shalbe lawfull to any person or persons which at any tyme hereafter after the said xth day of March next comminge shall bringe any Welshe frizes to the said Backhaull and afterward shalbe disposed to sell them in any other fayer to sett the same frizes to cottoninge⁶⁸ or rowinge⁶⁹ to any other burgess within this citey there onely to be wrought and not soule. Provided also that it shalbe lawfull to and for every burgess of this citey which at any tyme after the said xth day of March next comminge shall buy or cause to be bought to his owne use any broade wollen clothe, kersies, frizes or other wollen clothe out of the liberties of this city before the same be brought within the liberties of this city to bring or cause to be brought the same clothes, kersies, frizes and other wollen clothes out of the liberties of this city before the same be bought within the liberties of this city to bring or cause to be brought the same clothes, kersies, frizes and other wollen clothes so brought without the liberties of this citey to their and every of their housses, shoppes or warehouses and not to the said Backhaull anything in this ordinaunce contayned notwithstandinge.

⁶⁸ To cotton: to form a down or nap on, to frieze.

⁶⁹ To row: to draw out the loose fibres from the cloth with teazles.

[*In the margin* An ordynance concerninge clothes to be brought to the Backhall. Voyd.]

Struck through and barely legible To contynewe and also to be considered of.]

The right worshipped Mr. Mayor with the rest of her Majesties Justices . . .⁷⁰ streightlie chardge and commaunde that noe burgesse nor any other inhabitaunte within this cite of Bristoll or any the liberties of the same shall not at any tyme or tymes hereafter receave, harbour nor kepe in his or their howse or howses, directlie or indirectlie, and kynde of wollen cloth whatsoever, to thentente to put the same to sale, or to be wrought before the same cloth shall first be brought to the Backhall, there to remayne untill the same cloth or clothes be full bought and sold by some merchaunte or draper of the same citey. Upon payne that every one which shall offende contrary to this order shall forfeite and lose for every brode cloth xx s., and for every kersey, frize, cotton, Bridgewater and Penycton⁷¹ v s., the which they shall pay withoute anye myttigacion, favour or affection, thone half of which forfeitures to be at the disposicion of the Mayor and Aldermen for the tyme beinge and thother half to him or them that will informe thereof and make just proffer of the same against thoffenders. God save the Queene. 19 Eliz.⁷²

Folio 40 TEMPORE JOHANNIS WADE MAIORIS
XVO DIE SEPTEMBRIS ANNO XIXO EL
REGINE

Memorandum the day and yere abovesaid yt was agreed by the right worshopfull the Maior, Aldermen and Common Counsell that Mr. Maior and his brethren the Aldermen Mr. Robertes, Mr. Slocum, Mr. Langley, Mr. Aldwoorth, Mr. Cole and Mr. Warren shall mytigate the fine for the freedome of such persons as are herafter to be admytted to the freedome of the cytee as the most of them shall thinck convenient.

[*In the margin* Voyd.]

XXVJO DIE SEPTEMBER ANNO XIXO
ELIZ REGINE

Memorandum the day and yere abovesaid yt was agreed by the right worshopfull Mr. Maior and his brethren thealdermen and the Comon Counsell that the act before made in the time of Mr. John Smyth, Maior, videlicet, that no Recorder should be under the degree of a bencher shalbe dispensed withall for this time concerning Mr. Hannam.

[*In the margin* Adispensation of an ordinance made in the tyme of Mr. Smyth, Maior, concerninge the Recorder. Voyd.]

And further yt was then and there agreed by the consent aforesaid

⁷⁰ The manuscript is torn here.

⁷¹ Penistones were made from fell, not fleece, wool.

⁷² The last paragraph is on a loose sheet of paper (not parchment) between fo. 39v and 40. The watermark is a *pot de anse*, a ewer with a handle, no. 12806 in C.M. Briquet, *Les Filigraves*, The Paper Publications, 1968. This is the watermark of a paper made in France in 1600 which implies that the shortened version of the preceding 1577 ordinance was inserted later.

that where Mr. John Popham, then Recorder of this cytee, did then and there resigne up his said office of Recorder, that Mr. Thomas Hannam shalbe Recorder of this cytee.

[*In the margin* Mr. Thomas Hannam chosen to be Recorder. Voyd.]

TEMPORE THOME COLSTON MAIORIS

IIJO DECEMBRIS ANNO REGNI

REGINE ELIZABETH XXO

Yt was agreed that the ordinances made for the rest . . . t⁷³ of maultmaking shall fromthencefoorth be voyd. And that yt shalbe lawfull to and for all and evy burgesse and inhabitant within the liberties of this cytee to make mault, any ordinance heertofore made to the contrary notwithstanding.

[*In the margin* For making of mault. Voyd.]

Struck through To be considered of. Another ackte in folio 32.]

Folio 40v DIE SABBAT XIJ DIE JULIJ ANNO XXO

REGINE ELIZABETHE

Yt was enacted by the assembly then presente that fromhencefourth no comissyion shalbe put into the Comission of Oyer and Determyner but suche as have ben allowed by Chartre and usage within this cytye to be chosen of the auncyentes of the Common Counsayll.

[*In the margin* Voide.]

Yt was also enacted that the persons undernamed, videlicet Mr. Harrys, Mr. Tucker, Mr. Langley, Mr. Rowland, Mr. Cole, Mr. Warren, Mr. Gyttons and Mr. Blake, or fower of them at the leaste, to be indifferent heerers and examyners of all custones and libertyes concernynge the courtes of the Guildhall of this citie between this and Michaelmass nexte, the same to be searched oute by the Townclarcke and Stuarde and Comon Attourny and all other office and attourneys belonging to the said courtes.

[*In the margin* Voyd.]

Thomas Colston, Maior

Roberte Saxey

David Harrys

Thomas Kelke

John Browne

Anthony Standbacke

William Tucker

George Snigge

John Prewett

John Wade

William Hopkins)

Walter Standfast)

vicecomites

John Griffith

vac

John Robartes

Thomas Younge

Thomas Slocum

William Hicces

John Barnes

Thomas Warren

Randall Hassald

William Gyttons

Robarte Kytchinge

William Burde

William Salterne

Roberte Halton

Nicholas Blake

Michael Pepwall

John Ashe

Richarde Ashurste

William Prewett

Raffe Dole

Bartholomew Cooke

⁷³ Possibly *restraint*.

John Jones
 Phillip Langley
 Thomas Rowland
 Richard Cole

TEMPORIS JOHANNIS ROBARTES
 MAIORIS XVJO DIE DECEMBRIS
 ANNO REGNI ELIZABETH ETC. XXJO

Memorandum yt was agreed by the assembly whos names ar under written that Mr. Maior and thaldermen shall chuse oute fower honest and substanncyall persons of every warde and that Mr. Maior and thaldermen and the saide xxti persons or the most parte of them shall asseste the persons within every warde for the taxation of the generall contribucion towarde the reperacion of the Chambers woorkes.

[*In the margin* Concerninge the Chambers woorkes. Voyed.]

John Robertes, Maior	John Griffith	Randall Hassull
Roberte Saxcy	Thomas Younge	William Gyttons
Thomas Kelke	Thomas Slocombe	Roberte Kytchinge
Johannes Brown	John Jones	William Burde
Anthony Standbake	Phillip Langly	William Saltern
William Tucker	Thomas Aldwoorth	Roberte Halton
George Snygge	John Pikes	Nicholas Blake
John Prewett	Thomas Rowland	Richard Ashurste
John Wade	William Hickes	William Hopkyns
Thomas Colston	John Barnes	Walter Standfaste
William Prewett)	Thomas Warren	
Raffe Cole)		
vicecomites		

Folio 41 DIE LUNE IXO DIE MARTIJ ANNO
 REGNI ELIZ. ETC. XXJO

Wheare the late losse and overthrowe of that wourthy shipp called the Golden Lyon⁷⁴ and of divers other shippes and barkes within the Roade of Hungeroade weare like to have wroghte the utter decay of this porte and cytie and the countryes heerunto adjoyninge, to the hazarede of the Princes indignacion for such grosse negligence in so waighty a matter, and to the utter impoverisschinge of this honorable cytye, to the mayntenaunce wherof all trewe and faithfull burgesses therof by bounded dutie are to applye them selves by all waies and meanes possible, as the common mother and nurse of them all, for the better relief of this presente daunger, and for the better and more speedy remeadye for like mishapes heerafter, which heertofore by anie acte of Comon Cownsaill hath not ben provided for, yt is nowe ordred and enacted by the righte wourshipfull John Robartes, Maior of this cytie, the wourshipfull his bretherne the Aldermen and the Common Cownsaill of the same nowe assembled whos names are underwrytten, that whensoever at any time from hencefourthe anie

⁷⁴ This wreck is discussed in Jean Vanes, *The Port of Bristol in the Sixteenth Century*, op cit., p. 11.

shipp or other vessell shall, or do by anie myshapp, waie or meane whatsoever, hap to be overthrowne or sonke within the roade or porte of Kingroade and Hungroade, or in anie place from the same porte unto the said cytie of Bristoll, that then and att all times and frome tyme to time yt shall and maie be lawfull to and for the Maior of the said cytee for the timebeinge (beinge Cheif Admyrale there) to comaund, take and appoynte all manner shippes, shippinge, boates, lighters and other vessells, and all and singler cables, ancors, tackle and all other furniture and necessities⁷⁵ whatsoever that by the said Maior with the assistaunce of his bretherne the Aldermen shalbe thoghte necessary or conveniente for the boyenge, wayeng upp and recovery of the said shipp called the Goldenn Lyonn and of all and every other shippes and vessalls whatsoever which heerafter shall or maie happen to be sounke or overthrowen as aforesaid and for the cleeringe of the said roade, porte and ryver of and from the same. And it is further enacted by the aucthorytye aforesaid, that before such time as anie cable, anker, takcle or other furniture or necessities shalbe taken to be imploid for the purposes aforesaid, there shalbe an apreiment taken therof by certeine persons uppo[n] their othes to be appoynted by the Maior and Aldermen for the time beinge and all such damage as att the time of the redeliverye of the same furniture or necessities or at the tyme of the recovery of such vessell so overthrowen shall apere by reason of the occupacon thereof shalbe trulie paid by the owner or owners of the shipp or vessell so recovered. If theie or anie of them be able⁷⁶ and for wante of abilytie in them, then the same damage to be paid by the inabytauntes of this cytee. And if anie owner or owners of anie shipp or shyppes or other vessels whatsoever or of any cable, anker, takle or other necessities whatsoever shall, or do at anie time heerafter uppon requeste or appoyntemente thereof as aforesaid to be made, refuse or denye to yelde the use and occupation of the same for the purposes aforesaid, or shall conceale any parte therof beinge required or appointed for the same service, than then every such offender for every such deniall, refusauill or concealment shall paie for the first offence the somme of xx li., and for the second offence xl li., to be reserved and kepte in handes of the Chamberlayne towarde the recovery of such losse of shipp or shippes, and for the third offence to be discomuned from the liberties of this citie. Provyded allwaies that no owner or owners of anie shipp or vessaile so to be recovered as aforesaid shalbe charged *Folio 41v* for and towardes the charges of anie such recovery, but onlie for his own parte. And that if any owner shall not be able or shalbe unwilling to beare the charges aforesaid for his owne parte, that then yt shall and maie be lawfull to and for Mr. Maior and his bretherne for the tyme beinge to sell the parte of the said shipp, goodes, tackle and furnytur belonging to such person as shalbe unable or unwilling to beare the said charges for and to wardes the paiement of the same.

⁷⁵ And all . . . necessities is an insertion written in the margin in a hand similar to the main entry.

⁷⁶ Probably this should be *unable*.

[*In the margin* An actt concerninge the Golden Lyon. Voyed.]

John Robertes, Maior	Thomas Aldwoorth
Roberte Saxy	John Pykes
Thomas Chester	Thomas Kircklaunde
David Harrys	Richard Younge
Thomas Kelke	Thomas Rowlaunde
John Browne	Rychard Cole
Anthony Standback	William Hicke
William Tucker	John Barnes
George Snigge	Thomas Warren
John Prewett	Randall Hassolde
John Wade	William Gyttons
Thomas Colston	Roberte Kytchinge
William Prewett)	William Burde
Raffe Dole)	William Salterne
vicecomites	
John Griffith	Roberte Halton
Thomas Younge	Michael Pepwall
Thomas Slocum	Richard Ashurste
John Jones	William Hopkins
Phillipp Langly	Walter Standfaste

DECIMO DIE SEPTEMBRI VICESIMO
PRIMO ELIZABETH REGNI

It⁷⁷ is further agreed and enacted by the right worshipping John Robertes, Maior, the Aldermen and the residue of the Common Counsell then assembled that this addicon shalbe to the acte next precedent, that ys to say, that all and every owner and owners of all and every shipp and shippes now overthrowen or sonke, or which hereafter shall happen to be overthrowen or sonke, in any place from Kingroad to the Key of Bristoll shall with all convenient speede that maye be, every one for his parte, procure the recovery of the same and the cleering of the river therof at their owne proper costes and charges, uppon payne to every offendour in neglecting the same being able therunto, for the first offence twenty poundes, for the second offence forty poundes, and for the third offence to be discomined.

[*In the margin* Touchinge the cleeringe of any shipp that is sonck betweene Kingroode and the Keye. To contynewe.]

John Robertes, Maior	Johannes Wade
Robertus Saxey	Thomas Colston
David Harris	Willelmus Brewer)
Thomas Kelke	Randolphus Dole)
	vicecomites
Johannes Browne	Thomas Younge
Anthonius Standbanck	Johannes Jones
Willelmus Tucker	Thomas Aldwourth
Johannes Prewett	Walterus Pikes

⁷⁷ The tail of the capital I of *It* is decorated with an insect, possibly an ant.

<i>Folio 42</i>	Thomas Kirkland	Willelmus Hopkins
	Thomas Rowland	Walterus Standfast
	Willelmus Hicks	Franciscus Knight
	Willelmus Gittons	Ricardus Jones
	Robertus Kitching	
	Willelmus Burde	

TEMPORE MAIORATUS THOME
YOUNG VJO APRILIS VICESIMO
SECUNDO ELIZABETH REGNI

It is enacted by Maister Maior, thaldermen and Comon Counsaile now assenbled [*sic*] whose names are underwritten that a graunte in fee ferme shalbe made to Mr. Thomas Young, or to his assignes, of a void grounde in the Pithay, excepting certaine rome for the comoding accesse of the people to the plump [*sic*] there and to the towne wall, in consideracion wherof there shalbe paid yearly to the Chamber thirteene shillings fower pence and to the Shrives for every foote in length five pence.

[*In the margin To contynewe.*]

Thomas Young, Maior	Thomas Kirkland * ⁷⁸
Robertus Saxey	Ricardus Young
Thomas Chester	Thomas Rowland
David Harris	Ricardus Cole *
Thomas Kelk	Willelmus Hickes
Johannes Browne	Johannes Barnes
Antonius Standbanck	Thomas Warren
Willelmus Tucker	Randulphus Hessald *
Georgius Snigg	Willelmus Gittons *
Johannes Prewet	Robertus Kitchin
Johannes Wade	Willelmus Bird
Thomas Colston	Willelmus Salterne
Johannes Robarts	Robertus Haltonn
Georgius Badram	Nicholus Blake
Franciscus Knight	Michael Pepwall
Thomas Slocum	Ricardus Ashurst
Willelmus Young	Willelmus Hopkins
Johannes Jones	Walterus Standfast *
Philippus Langley	Willelmus Prewett
Thomas Aldwoorth *	Randulphus Dole *
Walterus Pikes *	Richardus Jones *

Folio 42v TEMPORE MAIORATUS THOME
SLOCUMBE XVIIJO DIE AUGUSTI
ANNO REGNI REGINE ELIZABETH
ETC. VICESIMO TERCIO

Memorandum that the date and yere abowewritten in the Counsell Howse William Saxey, gentleman, did surrender and yelde uppe his office of the Towneclark, whereuppon at the same tyme thereat it is

⁷⁸ The names with asterisks are struck through.

condiscended, ordayned and agreed by the full consent and graunte of the worshipfull Mr. Thomas Slocumbe, Maior, Aldermen and the residue of the Common Counsell of the citie of Bristowe, that Hierome Ham, gentleman, shall from hensfourthe have, exercise and enyoie the office of Towneclarke within the said citie, with all the fees, liveries, duties, profittes whatsoever to the same belonging. And also shall fromhensfourth have, exercise and enyoie the office of Stewarde or keping courtes of any feoffees in truste to thuse of the Maior and Comonialtie of this citie with all the fees, duties and profittes whatsoever to the same belonging, to have, exercise and enyoie to him, the said Hierome Ham, so long as he shall well and sufficientlie exercise the same.

[*In the margin* Mr. Heirome Ham chosen Towneclark.⁷⁹ This to continewe accordinge to the trewe meaninge of the ordinance.]

Folio 43 TEMPORE PHILLIPI LANGLEY
 MAIORIS IIIJO DIE OCTOBRIS ANNO
 REGNI REGINE ELIZABETH ETC.
 VICESIMO TERCIO

Whereas much evill rule and disorder hath ben heretofore maynteyned and used within this citie and the liberties thereof in the howses of diverse persons which doe brewe and sell ale called crockbrewed ale who, not regarding the Quenes Majesties lawes and statutes made for the abolishing of such abuses and disorders, have wilfullie presumed to sell and utter the same in their howses and to mayneteyne tipling not being licenses thereunto and doe yet percever therein, whereby divers lewde and idle persons have used and hawnted the said howses, consumyng their tyme there in excessive drinkinge, gamynge and other like disorders to the displeasure of Almightye God and theire owne utter impoverishment not mete to be suffred.⁸⁰ Yt is therefore ordred and decreed by the right worshipful Mr. Phillippe Langley, Maior, the Aldermen and Common Counsell of the same for reformation of the premisses that no person or persons whatsoever shall at any tyme after the xijth daye of this present moneth of Octobre nowe next commyng brew, utter or sell any ale called crockbrewed ale within this citie or liberties thereof, uppon payne to forfait for every tyme doing contrary to this ordynance xx s. And that the comon brewers of this citie shalbe fourthwith licensed by the said Maior and Aldermen to brewe good and sufficient ale for thuse of the citizens of the said citie, of the best sorte after the rate of iij s. iiij d. the dosen until the feast of thanunciacion of our Ladye the Virgin Marie next commyng. And all other ale shalbe brewed and solde by the comon brewers at the prices heretofore accustomed which best sort of ale the said common brewers shall not utter or sell above the rate of iij s. iiij d. the dosen as⁸¹ aforesaid uppon payne to forfait for everie offence contrary to this order xl s.

⁷⁹ This entry is in the same hand as the main text.

⁸⁰ This document is repeated in full in B.R.O. 04273(1), but begins here in B.R.O. 04273(2).

⁸¹ As repeated.

And it is further ordred and decreed by the said Maior, Aldermen and Comon Counsell that noe taverner, inholder or tipler within this citie or liberties thereof *Folio 43v* shall suffer any person or persons at any tyme hereafter to spende and consume their tyme in drinking, breake fastinge, gamyng or other wise in their howses or indes uppon any Sondaie or feastifall daies at the tyme of Devyne Shervice or sermon tyme, but that the said inholders, taverners and tiplers during the tyme abovesaid shall kepe fast their dores and suffer noe person to enter in for that purpose uppon payne that everie such taverner, inholder or tipler shall forfait and paie for every tyme doing contrary to this order iij s. iiij d. And everie person so found consumyng their tyme as aforesaid shall forfait and paie xij d. to thuse of the poore people. Provided that this ordynaunce shall not be prejudiciall or hurtfull concerning any estraunger which hereafter shall breake his fast in his inde at the tyme aforesaid being bound in his jorney. And if any person offending in any of the premisses shall refuse to paie his said fyne or forfeiture according to this ordynaunce, then yt shalbe lawfull to the Maior for the tyme beinge to commytt every such person so refusing to the prison of Newgate, there to remayne untill such tyme as he shall satisfie the same fyne or forfeiture to the Chamberleyne of the said citie for the tyme beinge.

[*In the margin* Concerning crock brewinge. To contynewe.]

Folio 44 VICESIMO PRIMO DIE JUNIJ ANNO
REGNI ELIZABETH REGINE VICESIMO
QUARTO

Be yt enacted and ordeyned by the righte worshipfull Mr. Phillippe Langley, Mayor, the Aldermen his bretherne, and the Common Counsell at this daye in their Cownsell assembled, that all strawe, thatche, rede and ferne layde on any house, stable, pentice or other rome for the coveringe thereof within this citey or the suburbs thereof shalbe pulled downe and taken away by the owners of tenautes of every suche house, stable, pentice or other roome before the tenthe day of September nexte ensewinge, upon payne that every such person that shall have any such thatched house, stable, pentice or roome, and not cause the same to be taken away before the said daye shall forfeyte fortye shillinges to the Mayor and Cominalty of this citey, for not doing thereof. And, moreover, yf any person shall at any time after the said tenthe daye of September cover or cause to be covered any house, stable, pentice or other room with strawe, thatche, reede or ferne, or shall suffer his house, stable, pentice or other roome to remayne or be covered with strawe, thatch, reede or ferne within this citey or suburbs thereof, then every suche person soe offendinge shall forfeyte to the said Mayor and Cominaltye twenty shillinges for every monethe that he shall soe suffer the same to be so thatched or covered as aforesaid. And yf any person so offendinge in any of the premisses shall refuse to paye his said fine or forfeiture accordinge to the tenor of this presente ordynaunce, then yt shall and may be lawfull unto the Mayor of the citey for the tyme beinge to commytte every suche person so refusinge to make suche payment to the prison of Newgate, there to remayne without bayle or

mayneprise untill suche tyme as suche person shall have satisfied his said fine or forefeiture to the Chamberlein of this citey for the tyme beinge to the use of the said Mayor, burgesses and Comminaltye.
[In the margin Thatched houses. To contynewe.]

Philippus Langley, Maior	Willelmus Younge
Robertus Saxey	Thomas Rowlande
Thomas Chester	Johannes Barnes
Thomas Kelke	Willelmus Gyttons
Johannes Browne	Willelmus Byrde
Willelmus Tucker	Willelmus Salterne
Thomas Colston	Robertus Halton
Johannes Robertes	Michael Pepwall
Johannes Wade	Richardus Ashurst
Thomas Slocumbe	Willelmus Hopkins
Anthוניus Standbancke	Randolphus Dole
Georgius Snigge	Franciscus Knighte
Thomas Younge	Willelmus Perphey
Batholomewus Cooke	Willelmus Yate
Humfrius Andrewes	Ricardus Jones

Folio 44v and 45 are blank

Folio 45v

No clothe to be shorne but by the shermen	f 1/30/33	Bakers to be alwaies provided	7
		Sealling of bread to Wales	7
No brewer shall receave ale or beere from their customeres	f. 1	Elecion of the recorder with condicions and fee	8
No hoppes to be putt in ale	f 2.6	Bruers	8/15/38
No yarne to be given into the country to be woven	f 2	Fees of the meale markett to the Chamber	8
Apparaunce of them of the Comon Counsell upon warning	f 2.14	Concerning Mr. Thomas White and his money	8 24 32
Non apparaunce at Sessions lawday and other Courtes	f 2.28	Concerning pilotage and bringing in Shippes from Kingroad to Hungroade	8
Brewers	f 2		
Apprentices	f 2	Bueng of merchandizes of or for foreneres	9/28
Customes for goods or merchandizes sold	f 2	Cariadg within the citee by wayne	9
Concealment of Straungers goodes	f 2. 8.28	Thoth of Brokers	9

Authority to levy tax upon the inhabitants	f 3	Ordinance for Hungroade	10
		Concerning John Maunsell	12. 16
Disobedient burgesses	f 3	That none seeke for any office of the towne but of the Maior and Counsell	13
Masters of shippes dwelling in the towne to be preferred before others	f 3		
Brokers	f 3/10	John Willy admitted of the Common Counsell and Chamberlyn at the same time	13
Fine for refusing the office of Sheriff	4/6		
Whelage	4		
Graunte of the howse of Sainct Johannes	4	Concerning the keeper of the Backhall	13.20
Stuard of thadmiralltee chosen	4		
Water bayliff	4/17	The Towneclarck and Stuard to be utterbarrester	13
Gailor	4		
Drincking in the Christmas	4	Towneclarke and Steward one person injoyd both	14
Meter of clothe	5		
Brenging cloth to the Backhaull	5	Recorder to be a bencher	14
Revercion of thoffice of gaoler	4	Maior more than twyse	14.21
Proffites of fines of thadmiraltie to the Chamber	4	Townclarck refuse	14
Liberteas of burgesses concerning arrestes and services of processes	4	Pedlers and hucsters Concerning somons to the Marches	15.22.24.26 16
Measuring of clothe	5	Graving of shippes Sir Georg Norton freedom see the provisions of his oath	17.21 17
Who shalbe undersheryff	6		
Discharge of brokers	6	Conference by the Maior and Aldermen once a weeke	18

The Common Counsell accompany the Maior on Saint Johns nyght and Saint Peeters nyght		Dutie paiable by the Sheriffes to the hospitall	18
	6		
The Comon Counsell accompany the Maior at certain tymes	6	William Coxe dismissed from Sherife and Common counsell acion	18
Fine given to one which served sherife . . . ⁸²	6	Concerning Mr. Robert Thornes money	18 19 24 30
Bueng of a foriner before the merchandize come to the Backhall		No boucher shall make candelles	19
	6, 9, f 8		
For the charge of the Suite against William Dale	6	Dismissyon of Thomas Lansden out of common counsell	19
		Crockbruers	19
Forty poundes allowed to the Maior	7	Fredome of the citie	20, 32, 35
Bakers to by no corne within x miles of the towne	7	Fee of the Coroner	20
Bakers Country not to sell bread of rye	7	Assembly of the Common Counsell once a moneth	21
		None to be mayor thrice over.	20
(Folio 46)			
Botes served upon the shippes	21	No goods vendible to be received by any burgess into his house	8
None able to be Maior or Sheriff shall depart without leave	21	Fredome of the cytee	36
Huxter in . . . 2 . . . ⁸³	22	Thatched houses or penthouses	36
Orphanes	22		
Bueng of boordes	22	Ordinaunce for Orphanes	36, 44
Casting sope ashes into the river	23, 33	Foreign suyte between burgesses	37
Auditores of thalmehousse at Laffordes yate	23	Large estates of the Chambers landes	37
For the purchas of the landes appointed by Syr Thomas White	24	Wearing of lyveries	38

⁸² Illegible insertion.⁸³ Illegible insertion.

		Certain persons chosen to deal for Mr. Thornes and Mr. Whites money	38
Letting of the towne landes in fee farme	24	Harry Sly discommuned and remitted	38
Chandlers and sopemakers	25	Bringing clothes to the Backhaull	39
Nicholas Blake dispensed with from being sheriff for 5 yeres	25	One burgess not to sue another out of this citie	36
Skinneres and Pointmakers	25	Blake, ⁸⁴ Kelke and Higgins dismissed from being of the Comon Council for being in the country and not resident and are dismissed for not attending upon sumoned	66.1
Bouchers	25		
William Gittons amerced	25		
Chosing of the Highe Stuarde	25, 26		
Saltmeater	26	Richard George dismissed from being of the Comon Council and Sherife paying a fine and after elected to both by his own consent	65.1
Recorder Chosen	26		
Keper of the Back Hall	26, 31		
John Lacy dismissed out of the Comon council acion	26		
Eleccion of the Maior	26, 29	Thomas Colston dismissed from being Mayor 20 li. fine	58
Allowaunce to John Willy	26	Townclark one of the surveyor of the Grammer Schoole	51 2nd fol
Whitawers and pointmakers	27		
Wearing of tippettes for Aldermen	27	Houres for vintners to shutt their doores	51 1st fol.
Woollen drapers to be company	28	Mr. Ham chosen Townclerke	42

⁸⁴ Further entries in the Table of Contents are made in a different hand, cramped and almost illegible. Many ordinances are omitted.

Taking the custome howse to ferme	28	Act concerning ships suncke in the river which have to be risen	41
Ledd to be brought to the Back Hull	28	What persons to be putt into the Comissions of oyer and Terminer	40
Masons carpenters and tilers	28		
The discharge of Mr. Langley towching the suite for dissolving the Corporacon	29, 30	Inhabitanes taxed to repayre what workes the Chamber ought to do	40
Meale markett in Wyne Streete	29	Act naming the Recorder dispensed with	40
Provision for Stonecole	29	Rye of Dantzicke, a tryal of it	75
William Blast beerbrewer	29	Oath of a schoolemaster	75
The Chamberlenis bookes of accompte	30	Meale to be sold by Waight	67
The Assise of barrelles	31		
Making of mault within the cite	32		
Boordes standing in the High Street	32		
Liveries of officers	33		
Measures and weightes	34		
John Alkin admytted	35		
William Saxcy admitted	35		
Towneclarck	35		
Exemption from the Marches	36		
Fyer flaming oute of chymneis	36		
Overseers for the common brewers to be admytted or contynewe a freman	f.6 32		

Folios 46v, 47 to 49 are blank. 49v bears about five smudged and illegible words in a sixteenth century hand and Cunstable in a later hand.

Folio 50 is blank.

Folio 51 **TEMPORE MAIORATUS THOME
ALDWORTH VIDELICIT XXVJTO DIE
OCTOBRIS ANNO REGNI DOMINE**

NOSTRE ELIZABETH REGINE
XXVTO⁸⁵

The Mayor, Aldermen and Common Counsell whose names are subscribed, considering the greate abuses and enorityes that have heretofore growen and are like daylie to insue within this cyte throughe the disorderlie usage of taverners and vynteners in sufferinge dyvers lewde, idle and evell disposed persons to spende and consume their tymes and substaunce in drinkinge, playnge and other unlawfull exercises within their howses at unseasonable howers, to the manifeste disturbaunce of her Majesties peace and contempte of all good orders and civill government, have therefore ordeyned, established and enacted with their whole assentes and consentes that from hensfourthe noe taverner or vyntener whatsoever inhabitinge within this citie of Bristoll or liberties thereof doe suffer any suche person or persons to spende his or their tyme in drynkinge or any other unlawfull exercises within their or any of their howses after the Bowe bell ceased ringinge nyne of the clocke at night at St. Nicholas Church bytwene the feastes of St. Michael Tharchaungell and Thannuncyacion of our Ladye St. Marye the Virgine in the wynter season, nor after the hower of tenne of the clocke at nighte stroken by the clocke at St. Nicholas Church bytwene the feastes of Thannunciacion of our Ladye and St. Michael Tharchangell in the somer season, upon payne that every taverner and vyntener that shall be duelye approved to offende in the premisses or doe to the contrarye of this presente ordynauce shall forefeyte *Folio 51v* for everye suche offence tenne shillings, to be devyded in manner and form following (that ys to saye) eighte shillings thereof to be payde to the Mayor of this cyte for the tyme beinge towards the mayntenaunce of the Howse of Correction within this cyte and thother two shillings to be geven to the partye that shall present the same offence upon his othe before the Mayor and Aldermen. And that everye vyntener and taverner within this cyte shall keepe their doores shutte after the hower and tymes afforelymittid (excepte urgent occasion requier to oppen the same) upon payne of like forfeiture to be devyded as aforesaid.

[*In the margin* An actt concirninge vynteners to obstrue⁸⁶ their houses uppon paine of x s. To contynewe.]

DECIMO NONO DIE MARCIJ ANNO
REGNI DOMINE NOSTRE ELIZABETH
REGINE XXVTO

It ys ordered, condiscented and agreed by the said Mayor, Aldermen and Common Counsell in their Counsell House assembled that from hensffourth all jurors that shalbe retourned and sworne for the tryall of any in any of the courtes in the Guildhall of the city bytwene any parties whatsoever shall, upon the yeldinge uppe of

⁸⁵ It seems likely that this should be xxiv, since Thomas Aldworth was Mayor from September 24 Elizabeth to 25 Elizabeth (1582–3). The previous entry was June xxiv Elizabeth and the next one is March xxv. If this is a mistake, the document should be dated 1582.

⁸⁶ Obstrue = to block up.

their veredict, have fower pence a peece, to be payd unto them by the plaintiff where the debte or damadge geven by the veredict shall amounte to some of fortye shillinges or upwardes and that the plaintiff shall have allowaunce thereof againe in his costes by the partye defendaunte. And yf the jurye shall geve their veredict for the partye defendente, then the defendente shall paye to everye of the jurors fower pence, and have allowaunce thereof againe in his costes from the plaintiff.

[*In the margin* iii] d. to every of the jury upon verditt. To contynewe.]

Also yt ys ordered, decreed and established that from hensffourthe the contynuaunce of processe in all causes dependinge in any of the sayd courtes in the Guildhall be orderly entred and observed from courte to courte accordinge to due course and forme of lawe, and that every burgesse of the cite shall paye only twoe pence to the Clarke of the Courte and every straunger shall paye fowerpence for every suche contynuaunce or daye geven. And the like rate of fees to be ovserved for thentringe of every discontynuaunce.

[*In the margin* Contynuaunce of accions in the cortes at ii d. a burgesse and iiij d. a strainger. To contynewe.]

Folio 51, VICESIMO QUINTO DIE MARCIJ ANNO
second REGNI ELIZABETH REGINE XXVTO.
folio⁸⁷

It ys ordered and agreed that Mr. Phillipp Langley, Alderman, Mr. Michaell Pepwall, Mr. Frauncys Knighte, Nycholas Thorne, Chamberlein and Hierome Ham, Towneclarke shall once every quarter of the yere survey the School of the Bartholomewes, and the schollers there, whereby the same school may be well governed and the orders thereof dulye observed.

[*In the margin* Concerninge the survey of the free schole. Voyde.]

It ys also ordered that a general surveye shalbe taken of all the landes and tenementes apperteyninge to the Mayor and Cominaltye of the citey of Bristoll scituate, lyenge and beinge within the said citey and the libertyes thereof by the persons hereunder named and appoynted surveyors for that purpose, to beginne their survey the first daye of Aprill nexte ensuinge and from thensffourth at suche conveniente dayes and tymes as the said surveyors shall thincke good to proceede therein untill they have finished the said survey.⁸⁸

John Robertes, Alderman)	
Phillip Langley, Alderman)	
Thomas Slocumbe, Alderman)	
Thomas Rowlande	)	Surveyours
Richard Cole)	
William Hickes)	
The Chamberlein and)	
The Towneclarke)	

⁸⁷ Two folios are numbered 51. This one is known as 51 second folio.

⁸⁸ In 1583 the agents of Sir James Croft, P.C. were empowered to search and seize all concealed crown lands and, as a result of this, the Council ordered a general survey of lands. See *Bristol Charters 1509–1899*, ed. R.C. Latham, *op. cit.*, pp. 33–4.

[*In the margin* An act concerning the survey of all the landes within thys cittie. Voide]

UNDECIMO DIE JUNIJ ANNO REGNI
DOMINE NOSTRE ELIZABETH REGINE
VICESIMO QUINTO

It ys ordered, condiscented and agreed by the Mayor, Aldermen and Common Counsell in their Counsell House assembled that all suche deedes, evydences and writinges as concerne the Hospitalls of the Three Kinges of Collen in Bristoll and the Trinitye at Laffordes Gate within the suburbs of the same shalbe fourthwith broughte into the Chappell of St. George in Bristol, there to remaine in the cheste appointed for the poore to be saffely kepte under fower lockes. Whereof thone keye shall awayes remayne with the Mayor for the tyme beinge and thother three kayes to remayne with the feoffees of the sayd landes apperteyninge to the sayd Hospitalls to the use of the poore people within the same Hospitalls.

[*In the margin* The deedes to be brought in to the Chappell of St. Georges touchinge the Three Kinge and Laffordes Gate. Voide.]

(Folio 51v 2nd folio blank)

Folio 52 ORDINACIONES FACTE TEMPORE
MAIORATUS WALTERI PYKES
MAIORIS CIVITATIS BRISTOLL
VIDELICET QUINTO DIE DECEMBRIS
ANNO REGNI DOMINE NOSTRE
ELIZABETH REGINE XXVJTO

It ys ordered, established and agreed by the Mayor, Aldermen and Common Counsell in their Counsell House assembled the daye and yere above written that from hensfourth all the accomptes of the clothe money geven by Sir Thomas White and Mr. Roberte Thorne shalbe yerely perused and audyted by the generall audytors of the accomptes of the Mayor and Cominaltye of the citey, and that every seconde yeere one of the twoe persons appointed for the chardge and makinge of the said accomptes of the clothe money shalbe removed and one other of the Common Counsell to be chosen in hys place at the election daye.

[*In the margin* To contynewe.]

Also yt ys ordered, enacted and established by the said Mayor, Aldermen and Common Counsell in their Counsell House assembled the daye and yere abovenemenconed that from hensfourthe noe foreyner or straunger be admitted into the libertye of the Staple of Bristoll.

[*In the margin* No forriner to be free of the Staple Courte. To contynewe.]

DECIMO QUINTO DIE DECEMBRIS
ANNO REGNI DOMINE NOSTRE
ELIZABETH REGINE XXVJTO.

It ys ordered, condiscented and agreed that the feoffees of the landes apperteyninge to the two Hospitalls of the Three Kinges of Collen and the Trinitye at Laffordes Gate doe cause a newe feoffement thereof to be made, and that the ordynaunces for the

good government of the said Hospitalls and disposing of their landes and orderinge of the poore people there placed may be fourthwith finished and perfected.

[*In the margin* New feoffees of the landes of the Three Kings and Luffordes Gate. Voide.]

TRICESIMO TERTIO [S/C] DIE JUNII
ANNO REGNI DOMINE NOSTRE
ELIZABETH REGINE XXVJTO.

It ys consented and agreed that Nycholas Thorne heretofore elected Chamberleyne of the citey of Bristoll shall enter into bande of twoe hundred poundes to the Mayor, burgesses and Cominalty withoute suertyes. And the firste election of him to that office to stande in full force and effecte and the condycion of the sayd bande to be for the orderly execucion of his office of Chamberleinschippe, and for the dischargde of his dewty therein.

[*In the margin* Voide. Nycholas Thorne bound in bande for the performance of his office.]

Folio 52v DECIMO DIE JULII ANNO REGNI
DOMINE NOSTRE ELIZABETH REGINE
XXVJTO. TEMPORE MAIORATUS
WALTERI PYKES.

It ys ordered and agreed that an honeste and discreete person shalbe from tyme to tyme appointed by Mr. Mayor and the Aldermen to survey the meale markette on every merkette daye, and to presente unto Mr. Mayor for the time [*being*] all suche persons as bring or offer to sell there any corrupte unholosome or insufficiente meale not meete to be uttered or sould. And that they sayd person soe appointed surveyor of the said markett shall have a yerely fee of xiiij s. iiij d. to be payde by the Chamberlein for his paynes taken in the premisses.

[*In the margin* A surveyor appointed for the meale markett. Voide.]

NOMINA PROBORUM HOMINUM DE
COMUNI CONSILIO CIVITATE
BRISTOLL.

Walterus Pykes, Maior

Robertus Saxcy	)	Nicholaus Blake
Johannes Browne	)	Michaell Pepwall
Thomas Colston	)	Willelmus Salterne
Johannes Robertes	)	Richardus Ashurste
Phillippus Langley	)	Willelmus Hopkins
Johannes Wade	) Aldermanni	Walterus Standfaste
Thomas Slocumbe	)	Willelmus Prewette
Thomas Aldworth	)	Radulphus Dole
Thomas Yonge	)	Georgius Badram
Thomas Rowlande	)	Franciscus Knighte
Anthonius Standbancke	)	Willelmus Parfey
Walterus Davys	)	Willelmus Yate
Willelmus Ellys	) Vicecomites	Bartholomus Cooke
Willelmus Younge	)	Humfrius Andrewes

Ricardus Cole
Willelmus Hickes
Johannes Barnes
Randolphus Hassold
Willelmus Gyttings
Robertus Kitchin
Willelmus Birde

Johannes Webbe
Thomas Pollington
Riccardus Jones
Robertus Samforde
Johannes Horte
Edwardus Longe
Richardus Maye

Folio 53 ORDINATIONES FACT TEMPORE
MAIORATUS THOME ROWLANDE
MAIORIS CIVITATIS BRISTOLL
DECIMO QUINTO DIE DECEMBRIS
ANNO REGNI DOMINE NOSTRE
ELIZABETH REGINE VICESIMO
SEPTIMO

It ys ordered and agreed by the Mayor and Aldermen and Common Counsell the daye and yere abovesaid that Mr. Mayor, Mr. John Browne and Mr. Phillippe Langley, Aldermen, Mr. William Byrd, Mr. William Salterne and Mr. Walter Standfaste shall peruse all the ordynaunces of the citey, and upon deliberate consyderacon to make a collection of suche as in their judgmente are thought meete to be repealed and after suche collection made shall make reporte thereof to their bretherne in their Counsell House. And that all such ordynaunces as heretofore have bin established and ordeyned within the said citey shalbe hereafter put in due execucon and the penaltyes levied accordinge to the tenor of every suche ordynauce.

[*In the margin* Conservinge all ordynances as shalbe established. Voide.]

It ys alsoe ordered and agreed that from hensfourthe the Town-clarke shall have and receyve for the recognizaunces taken in causes of orphans these fees hereafter ensuing and noe other (that ys to saye) for the enteringe of everye recognizaunce where the orphanns porcion dothe not excede the some or vallue of fortye poundes, the said clarke shall take ij s. vj d., and from the some of fortye poundes unto the some of fyve hundred poundes, the said clarke shall take one peny of every pounce (that ys to saye) for fyve hundred poundes, fyve hundred pence, and soe after the same rate, yf yt be under fyve hundred and above fortye poundes, and yf the some or vallue of suche orphans porcion doe amounte above the some of fyve hundred poundes, then the said clarke shall take for his fees only fyve hundred pence, and not above.

[*In the margin* An ordinance for entringe recognizances for orphans. To be considered.]

Item it ys ordered, condiscented and agreed that there shalbe fourthwith a boxe sette in some conveniente place in the Mayor and Aldermens Courte in the Guildhall and one other boxe in the Sheryves Courte, and that upon every judgement geven in any of the said courtes, as also in the Staple Courte, the party for whome suche judgement shalbe geven shall fourthwith geve iiij d. to the reliefe and comforte of the poor prisoners in Newgate.

[*In the margin* An ordynnance consirninge iiij d. to be given to Newgate upon judgement given in any courte. To contynewe.]

Folio 53v SEXTI DIE MARTII ANNO REGNI
DOMINE NOSTRE ELIZABETH REGINE
XXVIJO

It is ordered that from hensfourthe noe persons or persons whatsoever shall keepe or sette uppe any bourdes or standinges in the High Streate of the cytie of Bristoll on payne that every person doinge contrarye to the tenor of this ordynaunce shall forefeyte for every person offence three shillinges and fower pence, to be payd to the Chamberlein of this cytie to the use of the Mayor, burgesses and Cominaltye, provyded nevertheles that yt shalbe lawfull for suche as sell fishe on the markette daye to place and sette their fishe bourdes in the Highe Streate benethe the haull doore of the house called or knowne by the name of the Signe of the George in the High Streate afforesayd, this ordynaunce notwithstandinge.

[*In the margin* An ordynaunce that no standinges to be sett in the High Streete. To contynewe.]

It ys also ordered that from hensfourth there shalbe but onlye fiftene huxeskers permitted within this cytie, and those huxesters to be nominated, appointed and allowed by the Mayor and Aldermen for the tyme beinge. And the said huxesters shall not at any time sell any other thinge for the provisyon of the inhabitauntes of this cytie, but only suche as shalbe appinted and allowed them to sell by the said Mayor and Aldermen. And also that the said huxesters shall sell their fruite and other thinges to them allowed to sell but only in suche place or places as to them shalbe lymytted and appointed by the sayd Mayor and Aldermen, and not elsewhere, on payne that every person and persons whatsoever that shall presume from hensfourthe to sell any thinge in this citie as a huckester not beinge nomynated, lycensed and appoynted as afforesaid, or beinge lycensed shall sell any other thinge, then ys or shalbe unto them or eyther of them appointed or shall sytte in any other place then unto them soe lycensed shalbe limited and assigned as afforesaid shall for the first offence in any of the premisses suffer imprisonment by the space of one whole daye, and for the secound offence shall forefeyt and paye to the Chamberlein to the use of the Maior and Comunaltye iij s. iiij d.

[*In the margin* Repealed the sixth day of December 1609, Mr. Robt Aldworth being Mayor and a newe ordynaunce then made as may appeere touching the sayd huckesters.]

Folio 54 XXIIIIJO DIE MAII ANNO REGNI
REGINE ELIZABETH VICESIMO
SEPTIMO 1585.

It ys ordered, assented and agreed that everye parishe within the cytie of Bristoll shalbe contributorye and yeerely chardged to and for the payment of a yeerely some and porcion of money for the mayntenaunce of a learned preacher to preache the worde of God within this cytie twyse everye weeke as yt hath heretofore used, the said somes to be paid in manner and form followinge (that ys to saye) first St. Nycholas parishe shall yeelde yeerelye for the purpose

afforesaid viij li., the parishe of All Sayntes v li., St. Warborows parishe iiij li., the parishe of Christe Church v li., the parishe of Redcliffe iij li., St. Thomas parishe iij li., Temple parishe xl s., St. Peters parish xxvj s. viiij d., St. Leonardes parishe xl s., St. Stephens parishe xl s. and St. Ewens parishe xiiij s. iiij d. And that the proctors of every severall parishe afforesaid shall collecte the same severall somes quarterlye and delyver the same to the Mayor for the tyme being to the use afforesaid.

[*In the margin* An order for money for a preacher. To contynewe with better consideration.]

It ys alsoe ordered, assented and agreed by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Counsell the daye and yeere afforesaid that all suche dogges as are yn this cytie and not kepte for any proffitable or necessarye purpose shalbe killed and rydde oute of this cytie presentlye for avoydinge of infection this somer season. And that for the performaunce hereof Mr. Mayor and the Aldermen his bretherne shall fourthewith devise some good order as to them shall seeme meete.

[An order for killinge of dogges in the somer tyme. To continewe if nede so requier.]

XXIIJO DIE MENSIS JULIJ ANNO
REGNI REGINE ELIZABETH VICESIMO
SEPTIMO 1585.

It ys agreed, enacted, ordeyned and established by the Mayor, Aldermen and Common Counsell that all those landes which some tyme were the landes of Thomas Harte, deceased, and nowe lately purchased by the Mayor and Commynaltye of the cytie of Bristoll of the Queenes Majestie shall allways hereafter be and remayne and the yeerely rentes thereof forever hereafter be employed to suche uses as are expressed *Folio 54v* and declared in the tripartite indentures made betwene the Mayor, burgesses and Comynaltye of the cytie of Bristoll of thone partye, and the Presidente and Schollers of St. John Baptiste founded in the Universitie of Oxford by Sir Thomas Whyte, Knighte and Alderman of London, deceased, of the seconde partie, and the Maister and Wardeins of the Merchaunte Taylors of the Fraternitie of St. John Baptiste in the cytie of London of the thirde partie, bearinge date the firste day of Julye yn the yeere of Our Lord God 1566 and yn the eighte yeere of the raigne of our Sovereigne Ladye Queene Elizabeth etc., the rentes of which landes are of the cleere yeerely vallue of xx li. j s. iiij d.

Alsoe this daye Mr. William Hikes, Mr. William Gyttons, Mr. William Birde, Mr. Frauncys Knighte were appointed by the said Mayor and Common Counsell to take notice what persons of this cytie have in their handes any of the money geven by Sir Thomas White, Knighte, or Mr. Roberte Thorne, merchaunte, and to enquier dilligentlye whether suche persons doe converte and imploye the same money to suche good uses, as the same was geven unto, and thereof to advertize Mr. Mayor and the Aldermen his bretherne.

[*In the margin* An ordinance conserninge xx li. of Sir Thomas Whites

landes.⁸⁹ *Against each paragraph*) Voide.]

Thomas Rowlande,	Willelmus Younge	Randulphus Dole
Mayor		
Robertus Saxey)	Ricardus Cole	Georgius Badram
Johannes Browne)	Willelmus Hicke	Fraunciscus Knighte
Thomas Colston)	Johannes Barnes	Willelmus Parphey
Johannes Robertes	Randulphus Hassold	Willelmus Yate
Philippus Langley)	Willelmus Gyttones	Bartholomus Cooke
Johannes Wade)	Robertus Kitchen	Humfrius Andrewes
Thomas Slocumbe)	Willelmus Birde	Johannes Webbe
Thomas Younge)	Nicholaus Blake	Thomas Pallington
Thomas Aldworth)	Michael Pepwell	Walterus Davys
Walterus Pykes)	Willelmus Salterne	Willelmus Ellys
Aldermanni		
Ricardus Jones)	Ricardus Ayshurst	Robertus Sampford
Ricardus Kelke)	Willelmus Hopkins	Johannes Horte
Vicecomites		
	Walterus Stanfaste	Edwardus Longe
	Willelmus Prewette	Ricardus Maye

Folio 55 ORDINACIONES FACTE TEMPORE
MAIORATUS RICHARDI COLE
MAIORIS CIVITATIS BRISTOLL
VIDELICET XXVJ DIE OCTOBRIS
ANNO REGNI DOMINE NOSTRE
ELIZABETH REGINE XXVIIJO⁹⁰ 1585.

This daye the letters of the Righte Honorable the Lorde Chaunceller, and the Earle of Pembroke were openlye readde to the Mayor, Aldermen and Common Counsell in their Counsell House assembled, in the behalfe of Mr. James Orenge for his preferment to some office within this cytie which consisteth in the practize of the lawe when yt shall happen to fall. Whereupon yt was generallye thoughte conveniente, and soe ordered, by the whole asemblye then presente, that the auntyente usages, orders and constitucions concerninge the not gevinge of offices yn revercion shoulde be for dyvers goode causes always hereafter observed. Howe be yt was then declared by the moste parte of said Assembled that motion hathe bin heretofore privatlye and particulerlye made by Nicholas Hill, gentleman, for their good willes and furthuraunce of him to thoffice of the Stewardshippe of the Tolzey Courte, when yt shall happen to fall, unto whome they have geven their promises, to yeelde their good willes and furthuraunce when yt shall fall to be geven, soe as he be made an utterbarrister, and in lyke manner the whole asemblye have yielded their consentes and promised to further the said James Orenge to have the office of Towneclarke of the said cytie yf yt shall fall voyde.

⁸⁹ The problems concerning Thomas Harte's bequest are discussed by Latham in *Bristol Charters 1509–1899*, *op. cit.*, pp. 33–34. The revenue was reallocated to the Sir Thomas White trust which is presumably why Harte is not mentioned in the marginal note.

⁹⁰ This should be xxvij, since the regnal year began in November.

[*In the margin* Mr. Orenge allowed to be Steward. Voide.]

XVIIJO DIE NOVEMBRIS ANNO REGNI
DOMINE NOSTRE ELIZABETH REGINE
XXVIIJO 1585

It ys ordered, agreed and established by the Mayor, Aldermen and Common Counsell, that noe person or persons whatsoever beinge of the Common Counsell of this cytie of Bristoll shall at any tyme hereafter upon any suyte or motion made for any office or for any other matter or thinge whatsoever which shall passe by acte of Common Counsell in this cytie, yeelde his voyce, promise or consente to any person that shall sue for any office or matter afforesaid, but only openlye in the Counsell Howse in full assembye there, on payne that he which shall doe contrarye to this presente ordynnce shall forfeyte and paye tenne poundes of lawfull Englishe money to the Chamberleyne to the use of the Mayor and Comynaltye of the cytie of Bristoll.

[*In the margin* That no voice to be given for any office but when the audien . . .⁹¹ is to gether upon paine of x li. To contynewe.]

Folio 55v Alsoe the same xvijth daye of November Mr. William Hikes, Mr. William Birde, Mr. Nycholas Blake and Mr. Frauncys Knighte are appoynted to joyne with Mr. Mayor and the Aldermen to answeere the L. Chauncellors letters touching the suyte of Mr. James Orenge for thoffice which he suette fore.

[*In the margin* Voide.]

XVIIJO DIE DECEMBRIS, ANNO REGNI
DOMINE NOSTRE ELIZABETH
XXVIIJO 1585

There was motion made in the Counsell Howse for a some of money to be lente by the persons then assembled for the provision of corne for the poore inhabitantes of the cytie in that tyme of dearthe and scarcety, which some of money was thereupon freely lente by the persons then assembled to be repayde at the feaste of St. John Baptiste then following.

[*In the margin* A motion for money to be lente to buy corne for the poor inhabitantes. Voide.]

XIJO DIE JANUARIJ ANNO REGNI
DOMINE NOSTRE ELIZABETH REGINE
XXVIIJO 1585

It ys agreed that the ordynaunce made in the tyme of Mr. John Smythe concerninge the Towneclarcke and Stewarde to be utterbarresters before they be admitted into those offices, shalbe dispensed withall for this tyme of election of the Stewarde of the Tolzey Courte. Whereupon yt ys the daye and yeere afforesaid and condiscended and agreed by the Mayor, Aldermen and Common Counsell in their Cownsell Howse assembled that Mr. James. Orenge shall from hensfourthe have, exercise and enjoye the office of the Stewardshippe of the Tolzey Courte within the said cytie with all fees, dewtyes and proffittes of righte apperteyninge to the said office, soe

⁹¹ Partly illegible, possibly *audience*.

longe as he shall sufficiently exercise the same. Provided always and yt ys condytioned that he shall obteyne the degree of an utterbarrester before thende of Trynytie terme nexte ensuinge. And upon condycon that the Staple Courte or the jurisdiction thereof be not at any tyme hereafter impeached or dissolved and *Folio 56* also upon condicion that the said James Orrenge shall submytte him selfe to the order of Mr. Willyam Birde, Mr. Willyam Salterne, Mr. Willyam Gyttons and Mr. Bartholomewe Cooke for all controversyes that shall happen to aryse bytwene the said Towneclark and the said Stewarde for the accions to be had eyther in the Mayor or Sheryves Courte.

[*In the margin* Nonce to be Towne Clarke or Steward unles he bee an utterbarester. To contynewe.]

QUARTO DIE MARTIJ ANNO REGNI
DOMINE NOSTRE ELIZABETHE
REGINE XXVIII 1585

It ys ordered and agreed that everye souldyour that shall goe to the muster, or be trayned, and shall weare or use the armour or furniture of any other person shall have allowed him by the owner of suche armour or furniture vj d. by the daye that suche souldyours shall weare or use suche armour or furniture.⁹²

[*In the margin* The souldier to be allowed vj d. for wearing the armor. To contynewe.]

It ys alsoe ordered, conscented and agreed by the righte worshippfull Mr. Mayor, the Aldermen and moste parte of the Common Counsell this daye assembled, that everye burgesse of this cytie of Bristoll asseassed in the laste subsidye booke towards the chardges of the muster and trayninge of men within this cytie, and other expenses to be disbursed concerninge that buyssines, and that Mr. Mayor and the Aldermen shall appoynte collectors in every warde for the gatheringe of the same fourthwith, and that the money soe collected shalbe broughte presentlie to Mr. Thomas Colston and Mr. William Byrde whoe shall keepe an accompte of the bestowinge thereof.

[*In the margin* That every one asseaste in the subside shall paie xvj d. of the pounce for chardges of muster. Repealed.]

Collectors appoynted for this
taxacion as followethe videlicet

In Trinitie Warde	In Redcliffe Warde
Mr. Thomas Pollington	Mr. Richard Maye
William Gybbes, brewer	Thomas Callowhill
In All Hallonde Warde	In Snt Ewens Warde
Mr. Edwarde Longe	Mr. Richard Kelke
John Whitson, merchaunte	John Caroe, vintener ⁹³
In St. Mary porte Warde	
Mr. John Webbe	
Thomas Salterne, mercer	

⁹² It would seem that some people paid others to be their substitute at the muster.

⁹³ The list of wards is not finished but ends with scribbles.

Folio 56v VICESIMO DIE APRILLIS ANNO REGNI
DOMINE NOSTRE ELIZABETH REGINE
XXVIIJ 1596⁹⁴

It ys this daye ordered and agreed that Mr. Phillippe Langley, Mr. Thomas Aldworthe, Mr. Robert Kytchen and Mr. Towneclarke shalbe sent to London this nexte terme to deale in the cause in difference bytwene the Lorde Admirall and the Mayor and Comynalthe, and that a warrante shalbe made unto them under the common seale of the cytie, authorizinge them to conscente to any order that they shall thincke meete in the behalfe of the Mayor and Comynalthe touchinge the endinge of those causes.⁹⁵

[*In the margin* Fower of the Counsell to goe to London touching my Lord Admyrall. Voyde.]

DECIMO SEPTIMO DIE MAIJ ANNO
REGNI REGINE ELIZABETH XXVIIJO
1595⁹⁶

It ys this daye ordered and agreed that whereas there are soundrye accomptes by the hedde collectors for the poore people in every parishe of the money by them receyved, that those whose names are heere under wrytten shall call the said collectors to delyver upp the said accomptes, and yf thereupon yt shall appeere to the said audytors that any money dothe remayne in the handes of any of the said collectors, or that they have bestowed the same to any other use then for the relieffe of the poore, then suche further order shalbe taken therin upon reporte to be made by the said audytors, as to the Mayor and Aldermen shalbe thoughte meete for recoverye of the same money.

Mr. Thomas Colston)	
Mr. William Hicke	)	Audytors appoynted for
Mr. William Gytens	)	the money of the poor
Mr. William Byrde	)	people as afforesayd
Mr. William Salterne)	

[*In the margin* Auditores appointed for the money of the poore people.]

Folio 57 ULTIMO DIE MAIJ ANNO REGNI
DOMINE NOSTRE ELIZABETH REGINE
XXVIIJO 1586.

It ys ordered and agreed that noe burgesse or inhabitant of this cytie of Bristoll shall receyve or take into his howse, seller or other roome any tanned leather brought to this cytie to be sould, neyther shall at any tyme hereafter suffer any suche leather to be layde or harbored, in his howse, seller, or other roome. But that all suche leather shalbe broughte to the Backehall, on payne that every person

⁹⁴ The date 1596 is obviously an error made by the scribe for 1586.

⁹⁵ Bristol's right to exemption from the Court of Admiralty was in dispute during the sixteenth century. See *The Great White Book*, *op. cit.*, p. 140, for a warrant from the Court of Admiralty dated 28th June 1586, concerning goods taken from the French ship *Jennet*.

⁹⁶ It would appear the scribe made an error. May 28 Elizabeth is 1586.

which shall harbour or receyve any such tanned leather contrarye to this presente ordynaunce shall forefeyte and paye to the Chamberlayne of the said cytie for the tyme beinge to the use of the Mayor and Comynaltye of Bristoll vj s. viij d. for every dicker of tanned leather, and xij d. for everye dozen of calve skinnies.

[*In the margin* No leather to be sould butt in the Backhall. To contynewe.]

Alsoe this daye John Whytson, merchaunte, was adjudged an offender for that he broughte a straunger into the Backhall contrarye to an ordynaunce shewed in the Howse whereby he ys to forefeyte and paye tenne poundes.

VICESIMO PRIMO DIE JUNIJ ANNO
REGNI DOMINE NOSTRE ELIZABETH
REGINE XXVIIJO

For avoydinge of many greate inconveniences and dissorders that have heeretofore happened and are lyke hereafter to ensure by the sufferance of dyvers persons to keepe unlawfull games within the libertyes of this cytie, it ys ordered that noe person or persons whatsoever shalbe at any tyme hereafter lycensed or permitted to keepe or mayntayne any unlawfull games within this cytie of Bristoll or the libertyes thereof, notwithstandinge any suyte or requeste whatsoever on payne that the Mayor for the tyme beinge which shall hereafter suffer any person or persons to keepe any suche games, after he shall have knowledge or informacion thereof geven to him, shall forefeyte and paye to the Chamberlayne of this cytie to the use of the Mayor and Comynaltie of Bristoll xl s. And further that no Mayor of this cytie shall lycense or permytte any players whatsoever to playe in the Guildhall of Bristoll at any tyme hereafter, upon the like payne of xl s. to be payde by the Mayor as afforesaide, unles suche players doe playe there before the Mayor and his bretherne.

[*In the margin* No playe to be used in the Guyldhalle upon paine of xl s. To contynewe.]

Folio 57v XVJMO DIE JUNIJ ANNO REGNI
DOMINE NOSTRE ELIZABETHE
REGINE XXVIIJO 1586.

It ys ordered and agreed that Mr. William Birde, Mr. William Salterne, Mr. Nicholas Blake and three other persons to be nomynated by Mr. Thomas Aldworth shall audyte the accomptes of Mr. Roberte Thornes money which the said Mr. Aldworthe did deale yn in the lyfe tyme of Robert Halton, late Chamberlaine of Bristoll now deceased, and they to agree upon the accomptes touchinge the fyfte poundes which ys wantinge of the same money, and that the said Mr. Aldworthe and the Mayor and Comynaltye shall stande to such accomptes as shall be made and sette downe by the saide persons touchinge the some of fiftie poundes.

[*In the margin* Auditors appointed for Mr. Thornes money which Mr. Aldworth did deale yn. Voide.]

XIXNO DIE JULIJ⁹⁷ ANNO REGNI
DOMINE NOSTRE ELIZABETHE
REGINE XXVIIJO 1586.

It ys ordered and agreed that a conveniente stipende be had and rayased oute of every parishe hereafter mencioned for the mayntenance of a learned preacher within the cytie, videlicet

from St. Nicholas parishe yeerely	x li.
from the parish of All Sainctes	viiij li.
from St. Warborowes	viiij li.
from Christechurche	viiij li.
from St. Johns yeerely	iiij ⁹⁸ vj s. viii d.
from St. Marye Porte yeerely	xl s.
from St. Peters parishe yeerelye	xl s.
from St. Ewens parishe yeerelye	xx s.
from St. Stephens parishe yerelye	iiij li.
from St. Leonardes parishe yerelie	xl s.

And that the proctors or everye of the said parishes doe paye the same quarterly.

[*In the margin To be considered of.*]

Alsoe there was this daye graunted a free loane of dyvers somes of money by the Aldermen and others of the Common Counsell towards the redeeming of Mr. John Carres landes.⁹⁹

Folio 58 XXIIJO DIE JUNIJ¹⁰⁰ ANNO REGNI
REGINE ELIZABETH XXVIIJO

It ys ordered that every person beinge of the Comon Counsell of this cytie shall at their owne costes and chardges before the feast of St. Michaell the Archangell nexte provyde six water buckettes of leather, and shall allwayes keepe and mayntayne the same in his house to be in rydynes for the avoydinge and suppressinge the daunger of fyre which shall happen within this cytie or libertyes thereof upon payne that every such person of the Common Counsell which shall not provyde and have the sayd buckettes as afforesayd shall forefayte and pay to the Chamberlein to the use of the Mayor and Cominaltie of the sayd cytie twentye shillinges of lawfull money of England. And moreover that the Mayor and Aldermen of this cytie shall furthwith rate and appoynte such other substauncyall burgesses and citizens of the sayd cytie as they shall thinck meet to keepe and mayntayne such convenient number of like buckettes for the use afforesayd as they shall¹⁰¹ thincke good to appoynt them, and that every such citizen and burgesse shall provyde, kepe and mayntayne the same buckettes so rated and appoynted on payne of tenne

⁹⁷ The next entry is xxijo Junij, so either the entries have been copied in the wrong order or this one should be June and not July.

⁹⁸ li omitted.

⁹⁹ John Carr left money for the founding of Queen Elizabeth's Hospital.

¹⁰⁰ The previous entry was dated *xixno die Julij xviiijo 1586*.

¹⁰¹ *Shall* repeated.

shillinges to be forefeyted and payd as afforesayd yf he shall make any default herein.

[*In the margin* Sixe bucketes of leather to be kept in a reddynes in everye mans howse that ys of the Councell. To contynewe to be put in operation.]

XO DIE SEPTEMBRIS ANNO
SUPRADICTO

It is agreed that the Sherives the yeare after they goe out of their office shall have the oversight of the House of Correction and see correction don upon suche offenders as shalbe comitted thither and for the better performance thereof there shalbe yearelie one of the Aldermen appoynted by the Maior and Aldermen to be cheif governer thereof, and to see the stock of the saied house well employed and preserved, and good ordered maynteyned in the said house.

[*In the margin* Concerninge the Howse of Correction. To continewe.]

Folio 58v It is ordered that Mr. Temple to have a stipend of xxxiiij li. xiiij s. iiij d. for his lectures to be made every Tewesdaie and Thursdaie weekly and when he shall make defaulte, excepte it be by sicknes or other reasonable cause, to be allowed by Mr. Maior and Aldermen, he shall lose of his saied pencion vj s. viij d. for every lecture and the proctors of the churche of St. Nicholas to keepe a trew not of all his defaults.

[*In the margin* An ordinance for a stipend for the lecture reader. Voide.]

It is agreed that the Maior and Aldermen shall deale for the takeing upp of five hundred poundes for xxxj yeares and in consideracon thereof shall assure an annuytye or yearelie rent of fortye poundes out of the landes of the Maior and Comonalitie for xxxj yeares as it have byn offered to Mr. Maior that now is, and the saied five hundred poundes to be converted and employed to the redemption of Mr. John Carrs lands.

[*In the margin* An agreemente for v C poundes to be taken up for the redeeming of Mr. Carrs landes.]

XVTO DIE SEPTEMBRE ANNO
SUPRADICTO

It is agreed that Mr. Colston shall paie unto the Chamberlen to thuse of the Maior and Comonalty xx li. in consideracon where of he shall ever be discharged of the office of the Maioraltye of the cittie.

[*In the margin* Mr. Thomas Colston discharged from.¹⁰² Voide.]

XVIIJO DIE SEPTEMBRIS ANNO
SUPRADICO

It is this daie fullie consented and agreed that from hensforth the Towneclarkes fee of iiij li. shalbe advanced to x li. yearelie to be paid by the Chamberlen, together with all other allowances for paper and other thinges as olde tyme hathe byn used, and that the Chamberlen shalbe allowed thereof in his accompt thereof yearelye.

[*In the margin* The Towne Clarkes fee. To contynewe.]

¹⁰² *Mayoralty* omitted and note left unfinished.

Folio 59 ORDINACONES FACTE TEMPORE
WILLIAM HICKES MAIORE CIVITATIS
BRISTOLL XO DIE NOVEMBRIS ANNO
REGNI REGINE ELIZABETH XXVIIJO
1586.

It is agreed that Mr. Maior and Aldermen shall seale for the takeing upp of six hundred and fiftye poundes or seaven hundred poundes for the paiement of Mr. John Carrs debtes and for and towards the redemption of his landes, the same money to be taken upp upon the Maior and Commonalityes assurance either after the rate of x li. on the hundred for the loane thereof for a yeare, or for longer tyme as it can be gotten, or ells to take upp the same for an annuytye or yearelie rent of viij li. for every hundred for xxxj ye (*sic*) yeares, soe as the principall be absolutelie given to the use aforesaid, and never to be demaunded againe.

[*In the margin* Money to be taken up for the redeeminge of Mr. Carrs landes. Voide.]

It is agreed that Mr. Robertes, Mr. Langley, Mr. Salterne, Mr. Knight, Mr. Yate, Mr. Goughe shall conferr together and sett downe a rate upon all marchandizes that shall be brought to this cittie by water, to be paid upon the tonn or otherwise as they shall thinck good, the same to be employed and converted to the relief of the poore people in the Almshouse in the Marshe and what rate they shall agree upon shalbe gathered and employed as aforesaid.

[*In the margin* Voide.]

XXVIIJ DIE NOVEMBRIS ANNO
SUPRADICTO

Itt is agreed that the Maior, Aldermen and surveyors of the landes of the Maior and Comonality shall sell the leas of the rectorye of Banwell and that they shall gett as muche money for it as they may. Alsoe it is agreed that they shall lett the fee farme of the house and ground upon Michaell Hill, now in the tenure of Mistress Paine, widow, for suche fyne as will be given for the same.

[*In the margin* Voide.]

IIJO JUNIJ ANNO REGNI REGINE
ELIZABETH XXIXO

It is¹⁰³ agreed that there shalbe suche somes of money taken upp by the Maior and Aldermen as shalbe thought needful for the redeemyng of Mr. John Carrs landes.

[*In the margin* Voide.]

Folio 59v Eodem die

Itt is graunted, condiscended and agreed that Mr. John Wade, Alderman, shall have and enjoye the office of the keepinge of the Backhall in Bristoll with suche condicions as shalbe sett downe and agreed on by the Maior, Aldermen and Sherives of the cittie and William Bird, William Salterne, Nicholas Blake and Michell Pepwall.

[*In the margin* Voide.]

THE XXIJ OF AUGUST 1587

¹⁰³ Followed by *graunted and condiscended* struck through.

Orders sett downe and agreed on by the Committees appoynted by Mr. Maior and the Comon Counsel to be observed and performed by Mr. John Wade, nowe appoynted Keeper of the Backhall, as followeth

Imprims¹⁰⁴ that the saied Mr. Wade shall put in sureties to the Maior and Comonialty to yeald a just and trew accompt of all suche goodes, wares and merchandizes as from tyme to tyme shall be brought within the Backhall or under his chardge to any person to whome the saied goodes, wares or merchaundizes shall apperteyne and thereof to discharge the Maior and Comonialty sufficiently from tyme to tyme duringe the tyme of his contynuaunce in the saied office. Alsoe the saied Mr. Wade shall duringe the tyme of his aboade in the said office of Keeper of the Backhall shall observe all suche auntyent ordders as heretofore hath byn observed and kept by suche others as heretofore have byn keepers of the saied Hall and are sett downe in an ordynance concerninge the same.

Alsoe that the saied Mr. Wade shalbe contynuallye dwelling in the said Hall as long as he doth enjoye the said office and that he shall nether lett the same to farme to any person or persons or otherwise dispose of the same upon paine of losing of his said office.

Alsoe that the said Mr. Wade shall not take any to be his clarke but such as Mr. Maior and the Aldermen for the tyme being, or the most part of them, shall from tyme to tyme alowe and like withall.

Alsoe that the said Mr. Wade shall enter into the said Hall upon Bartholomew Eve next and that Mistress Sanback, nowe dwelling in the said Hall shall then depart and that the said Mistress Stanback shall also paie the rent at Michallmas next for that quarter.

[*In the margin against each of the five paragraphs Voide.*]

*Folio 60 xxij Februarij anno Elizabeth xxix*¹⁰⁵

It is agreed that the Lord Admiralls letters shalbe aunswered and his proces not to be executed.

[*In the margin Void.*]

VIIIVO DIE AUGUSTI ANNO SUPRADICTO

Whereas John Whitson is adjudged by the Maior, Aldermen and Comon Counsell this present daie assembled that he hath offended in the breach of an ordynance made in the tyme of William Jaye, sometyme Maior of the cittie, in the iiijth yeare of Kinge Edward the Sixt, for the buyinge of xxij tons of oyle the second daie of June last of Richard Kelley, merchant, and receyved the same oyle before he, the said John Whitson, did give any knowledge thereof to any of the brokers. It is therefore ordered, consented and agreed that the said John Whitson shall forthwith pay his fyne for the same within tenn daies next ensueing according to the said ordynaunce, being xxxiiij li. is mencioned, the same to be paid to the handes of the Chamberlen of

¹⁰⁴ Recta *imprimis*.

¹⁰⁵ 22 February 19 Elizabeth would be 1587, but the last entry is dated in English *August 1587* so it would appear that either the dates are incorrect or the entries copied in the wrong order.

this cittie to the uses aforesaid.¹⁰⁶

iis. at xij d. per lb the same to be devided as in the same ordynance
[*In the margin Voide.*]

And further that all others that have offended in like sort being
duelie proved before the Maior and Aldermen shall paie their fynes
in like manner.

[*In the margin Voide.*]

Mr. Langley, Mr. Cole, Mr. Bird, Mr. Salterne, the Townclark and
the Steward shall devise and sett downe an ordynance for the
avoyding of all burgesses of this cittie to deale as factor for the sale of
any goodes that shalbe brought to this cittie to be sould by any person
or persons that shall not be a free burgesse of the same.

[*In the margin Voide.*]

TEMPORE JOHANNIS BARONS,
MAIOR, XVIJO DIE OCTOBRIS, 1587

It ys agreed that the Mayor and Comissyoners of the Admiraltie of
Bristoll shall proceede in the Admirall Courte of Bristoll to adminis-
ter justice accordinge to the Charter of Admiraltie to any person or
persons that shall have cause to complayne and seeke justice or
remedye there and yf any suyte or questyon shall arrise or growe
there upon or bytwene the Admyrall and the citye touchinge the
jurisdiction and liberties of the cytie then the chardges of the said
suite shalbe borne by the common contribucion of the inhabitantes of
the cytie.

[*In the margin Voide.*]

Folio 60v ORDINACIONES FACTE TEMPORE
JOHANNIS BARONS SCILICET NONO
DIE NOVEMBRIS 1597¹⁰⁷ ANNOQUE
REGNI REGINE ELIZABETH XXIXO

It ys ordered and agreed that for the measuringe of sault there
shalbe a bushell provyded by the Justices which shall contayne just
tenne gallons untill there may be a bushell procured from the cytie of
London or from the Eschequer.

[*In the margin A salte boshell to be made. To be considered of.*]

ORDINACIONES FACTE TEMPORE
MAIORATUS ROBERTI KYTCHEN
SCILICET XVIJO DIE JUNIJ ANNO
REGNI REGINE ELIZABETH XXXJO

It ys ordered and agreed that there shalbe from hensfourth a
Common Waigher within this cytie of Bristoll for all manner of
goodes, wares and merchandizes waighable which shalbe brought to
this cytie to be sould, as alsoe for all cheeses which shalbe broughte to
this cytie to be soude by the hundred, half hundred or quarterne.
And that Roberte Sheward of the said cytie, merchaunt, shall have,
exercise and enjoy the said office of wayenge of the said mer-

¹⁰⁶ The marginal note against the ordinance on fo. 10 is marked *repealed*, but was
presumably still in force in 1587 and the marginal note made at some time after this
date.

¹⁰⁷ An error for 1587.

chandizes soe broughte to this cytie to be sould, and shall from tyme to tyme make partition and equal devision thereof betwene partye and partye trewly and indifferently beinge called thereunto by the owners thereof, takinge only for his paynes and travell therein iiij d. for every tonne waichte thereof. And alsoe that the said Roberte Showard shall have the wayenge of all such cheeses as shalbe brought to this cytie to be sould as afforesayd and shall have for his fee only one peny of every hundred waichte of cheese and shall provyde and mayntaine a fyttre and conveniente place with beames and scales for the waighinge thereof. And it ys further ordered that noe person or persons whatsoever shall at any time hereafter take or receyve into their house, shoppe or roome any cheese broughte to the markettes to be sould as afforesaid, on payne to forefeyte and paye ij s., excepte the partye which shall soe take in, or suffer any such cheeses to be taken into his house, shoppe, or roome shall cause the said cheese soe taken yn to be wayghed by the Common Waygher when yt is sould.

[*In the margin* For wayinge of all kindes of merchandizes broughte to this cyttie. To be considered of.]

Folio 61 And also it ys alsoe ordered that noe person or persons whatsoever presume to measure any saulte within this cytie or libertyes thereof but only the Common Mesurer of saulte beinge sworne and appointed thereunto, or otherwise such other person or persons as shalbe lycensed or appointed under him by the Mayor and Aldermen, or the moste parte of them, and sworne trewlye and indifferently to measure saulte bytwene the buyer and the seller, without fraude, covin or affection, on payne of fortie shillinges for every offence or twentie dayes imprisonment yf he be not hable to paye the fine.

[*In the margin* To continewe.]

XVO DIE SEPTEMBRIS ANNO REGNI
REGINE ELIZABETH XXXJO, 1589

It ys ordered and agreed that the acte made in the yeere of the mayoraltye of Mr. John Prewette shalbe repealed and from hens-fourthe to stande and be of none effecte touchinge the lettinge and settinge of the landes of the Mayor and Comminaltye. And that one other acte shalbe made and established touchinge the same, by the Mayor, Aldermen and Common Counsell before the feaste of All Sainctes nexte. And in the meane tyme, it shalbe lawful for the Mayor and surveyours to graunte any estate or feefarme of any landes whatsoever, excepte the mannors of Hampe, Stocklande, Horton and Erdecotte, thereby to procure money for the redeeminge of the mannor of Congresburye, soe as they firste acquaynte the Mayor, Aldermen and Common Counsell therewith and have their consentes, or the moste parte of them, therein.

[*In the margin* Voide.]

TEMPORE MAIORATUS WILLIAM
BYRDE SCILICET XIIJO DIE AUGUSTI
ANNO REGNI REGINE ELIZABETH
XXXIJO 1590.

It is ordered and agreed that Richard Goswell and Edmunde Alflate shall paye eche of them a fine of tenne poundes a peece for boyling trayne in their sope.

[*In the margin* Voide.]

Folio 61v TEMPORE MAIORATUS THOME
ALDWORTHE SCILICET ULTIMO DIE
MAIJ ANNO REGNI REGINE
ELIZABETH XXXVTO 1593.

It ys ordered that the Common Saultermeater shall not take any free burgesse of this cytie above iij d. for the measuringe of a tonne of saulte and one peny for the puttinge of every suche tonne of saulte into the vate, yf he doe the same by him self or his servaunte, and every straunger shall paye iij d. for the measuringe of everie tonne of saulte. And that the sayd measurer of sault shall not take any other or more fees then ys before in this Ordynnce lymitted on payne of imprisonment.

[*In the margin* Fees for the measuringe of salte. To contynewe.]

TEMPORE MAIORATUS MICHAELIS
PEPWALL SCILICET SECUNDO DIE
MAIJ ANNO REGNI ELIZABETH
XXXVJTO 1594.

It ys ordered that the brokers of this cytie shall have twelve pence upon every tonne of oyle and viij d. upon every tonne of wine of all sortes and iij d. upon every twentye markes worthe of any other sortes of wares for their fees untill further order shalbe taken therein, whiche shalbe donne before thende of Auguste nexte.

[*In the margin* Fees for brokers. To be considered of with others.]

It is ordered that yf any Alderman shall come to the place of audience or to the place of justice at the Tolzey, or the Guildhall, in any other fasshion gowne then an Aldermans gowne of the graveste sorte, he shall forfeyte and paye to the Maior and Commonaltie or to the Chamberlein to that use vj s. viij d. And in the like manner every of the Comon Counsell which shall come to the assembly in the Counsell House in any other gowne then of the gravest fasshion worne commonly by those which have bin Sheryves, shall forefeyte to pay vj s. viij d.

[*In the margin* No Alderman to come to the Tolsey without an Aldermans gowne on. And none of the Common Counsell to come to the Counsel House without the like gowne. . . .¹⁰⁸ nowe.]

Folio 62 TEMPORE MAIORATUS FRANCISCIJ
KNIGHT SCILICET XXIXO DIE
OCTOBRIS ANNO REGNI REGINE
ELIZABETH ETC. XXXVJTO

Itt is ordered and agreed by the Maior and Common Counsell that the Aldermen of every ward within this cittie, but especiallie on this side of Avon, shall forthwith nominate and appoynte twoe sufficient persons in every ward whoe shall by the auctoritie of this present ordynance take and assease by their good discretions all the inha-

¹⁰⁸ Illegible.

bitantes within the said severall wardes to paie yearely towards the wages of a Raker to carry the dust, rubble and other soyle of every house and to keepe cleane the streates. And that the Maior and Aldermen, or the more parte of them, shall provide and appoynte a sufficient person to that office of a Raker and agree with him for his wages yearelye. And that every inhabitant soo rated, taxed and asseessed by the saied twoe persons as afforesaid shall paie the saied soms soe taxed yearelye. And yf any shall refuse soe to doe, then itt shalbe lawfull to the Chamberlein or his deputye taking a connstable to enter into the house of every such person soe refusing and to distrayne aswell for the money soe taxed as alsoe for the some of iij s. iij d. as a forfeiture for not paiement of the same taxacion accordinge to this present ordynance to such uses as shalbe thought fitt by the Maior and Aldermen for the tyme being. And the taxers to have especially regard that shose [*sic*] that doe burne stonecolle be taxed to paie accordinge to the quanty of the ashes which cometh thereof, yf they be hable.

[*In the margin* An assesmente of the Rakers wages. Voide by an other ordinance made for the same purpose.]

Folio 62v Memorandum that it is ordered, established and agreed by the Maior, Aldermen and Common Counsell of the cittie of Bristoll in their Counsel House assembled the fourth daie of December in the xxxvjth yeare of the raigne of our soveraigne Ladye Queene Elizabeth, that every straunger or forreyner bourne out of the Queenes Majesties domynyons and not beinge a free denizen shall paie to the common brokers sworne and appoynted within the said cittie one peny upon every pound for their fees of all bargaynes which shalbe made for anie goodes or merchandizes which shall crosse the seas and be landed and dischargd at the porte of Bristoe. And that all and every other person and persons borne without her Majesties domynyons and beinge made a free denizen or free denizens shall paie to the saied brokers for their fees for every bargain made for anie suche wares or merchandizes one half peny upon every pounce; and that every other person and persons whatsoever beinge borne within her Majesties domynyons (exceptinge onlye the free burgesses of the saied cittie of Bristoll) shall paie to the saied brokers for their fees for every bargain made for any suche wares or merchandizes one farthinge of every pound after the rate of the some of money which every such bargain or bargaines shall amount unto and to be agreed on betweene the buyer and the seller, the saidd fees to be paid only by the seller of anie suche goodes, wares or merchandizes as aforesaid. Savinge all bargaines made for fishe, salte and all kinde of corne and grayne for the which the saied brokers shall have noe fees. Nether shall they have or receyve any fees of any person or persons whose goodes, wares or merchandizes soe brought and landed at this port as aforesaid shall not excede the value of twentye poundes in the whole of lawfull English money. And further it is ordered and agreed that yf anie burgesse of this cittie doe bargain with any straunger or forryner without the broker for any kinde of wares or merchandizes that

crosse the seas and shall discharge at this port of Bristoll, the said burgesses shall first give knowledge thereof to one of the brokers before he receyve the saidd wares or merchandizes¹⁰⁹ Folio 63 to the intent that the broker maye register the same bargaine in his booke. And yf the said burgesse doe not give any suche knowledge unto one of the said brokers as aforesaid, then he shall forfeite and paie for every pound which suche bargaine shall amount unto in money the some of fower pence of lawfull Englishe money to be devided into three partes whereof one thurde parte shalbe paid to the Chamberlen of the saide cittie to thuse of the Maior and Commonialty of the said cittie and thother third parte shalbe paid to the Maior and Aldermen for the tyme beinge to thuse of the poore people within the said cittie and thother third parte shalbe paid to the brokers of the saidd cittie for the tyme being.

[*In the margin* What fees shalbe payd to the brokers. To be considered of.]

VICESIMO DIE FEBRUARIJ ANNO
REGNI REGINE ELIZABETHE ETC.
XXXVIJO

It is this daie ordered and agreed that noe artificer or handycraftesman within this cittie or liberties thereof shall at any tyme after the xxvth daie of Marche next in any sort retayne or sett on worke any forryner or straunger to the liberties of this cittie which shall resort to this cittie havinge any wiefe or children within this cittie or ells where, upon payne that every person that shall soe retayne or sett on worke any suche forryner or strainger contrary to thintent and meaninge of this presente ordynance shall forfeit and pay to the Chamberlen of the cittie of Bristoll to thuse of the Maior and Commonialty vj s. viij d. for every weeke that suche forryner shalbe soe reteyned or sett on worke. And that this ordynance shalbe indorsed in every ordynance of the Companies within this cittie. And that this ordynance be alsoe observed by all inkepers and victuallers within this cittie and liberties thereof, excepte onely duringe the tymes of the fayers houlden within this cittie. Mr. Richard Smythe is dispensed withall for keepinge of one John Plovy untill St. Jamestyde next.

[*In the margin* For avoydinge of strangers out of the citty. To contynewe.]

Folio 63v TEMPORE MAIORATUS WILLELMI
PARPHEY SCILICET XJ DIE
DECEMBRIS ANNO REGNI REGINE
ELIZABETH ETC. XXXVIIJO 1595

It is agreed that all suche chardges as have byn disbursed by the Chamberlen for the trayninge of souldiers and for powder match, liveries and wages of officers touchinge that bussynes shalbe borne by the Maior and Commonialty and that the auditors shall allow the same in the Chamberlens accompt for so muche as is alrede disbursed, and that other order shalbe taken for supportinge of that chardge hereafter.

¹⁰⁹ Or merchandizes repeated at top of fo. 63.

[*In the margin* Monys to be paid of the Chamberleyne for the trayninge of soldiers. Voyde.]

It is agreed that the Swordbearer, John Magges, shall have v li. vj s. viij d. yearelie paid him by the Chamberlen soe longe as [he] shall have and exercise the office of Swordbearer in this cittie over and besides his former fees the same to begin from Michellmas next.

[*In the margin* Increase of the fee of the Swordbearer. To contynewe.]

XXO DIE DECEMBRIS ANNO REGNI
REGINE ELIZABETH ETC. XXXVIIJO
1595

It is ordered and agreed that whensoever any bargaine shalbe made by any burgesse of the cittie for any goodes or merchandizes above the value of CC¹¹⁰ which any forryner or straunger to the liberties of this cittie, or any that shall deale for the sale of any suche goodes or merchandize within this cittie, the Maior and some Aldermen shalbe made acquaynte therewith by the buyer or buyers thereof. And that the said Maior and Aldermen shall have the third part of suche goodes or merchandize to dispose thereof to the comon good and benefitt of suche cittizens as shalbe desirous to buy anye suche goodes or merchandizes, the saied Maior and Aldermen taking order for the paiement for the same, accordinge to suche prices as have byn agreed for upon such bargaine made as aforesaid and as shall appeare by the brokers bookes.

[*In the margin* Noe goodes to be bought by any burges, butt to acquainte the Maior therewith and the Maior and Aldermen to have one thride parte of every bargaine. To be consyded of.]

It is agreed that the ordynnance made in the tyme of William Woseley, Maior, anno xiiij Henrici viijti touchinge the receyvinge of strangers goodes into burgesses houses, and the ordynance made in the tyme of Tho. Brooke anno xviiijo Henrici viijti for buyeinge of goodes before they come to the Backhall shalbe executed against such as shalbe provide offenders, and the Maior and Aldermen to be defended therein at the chardge of the Maior and Commonialtye.

[*In the margin* To contynewe.]

Folio 64 Also the order for brokers fees made in the tyme of Fraunces Knight, Maior, is this daie ratified by the whole Counsell.

IIJO DIE FEBRUARIJ 1595

It is ordered that there shall not be any players in interludes suffered at any tyme hereafter to play in the Yeald Hall of Bristoll, beinge the place of justice. And that yf any Maior of this cittie shall at any tyme hereafter lycense or permitt any such players to playe in the said Yeald Hall, then everye suche Maior breakinge this ordynance shall forfitt and pay to the Chamberlen to the use of the Maior and Commonialty five poundes of currant Englishe money, to be deducted out of his fee of xl li. due to be paid unto him by the Chamberlen. And that noe suche players be suffered to play in this cittie or within the liberties thereof at any tyme after sunn sett.

¹¹⁰ *Li.* omitted.

[*In the margin* Noe players to be in the Guildhall uppon payne that the Maior gevinge licence shall forfeit and pay v li. To contynewe.]

TEMPORE MAIORATUS WILLELMI

YATE, SCILICET XVJO DIE FEBRUARIJ

1596

For the avoydinge of divers persons which dailie resort to this cittie to make their aboad and dwelling within the same, being strangers to the liberties of the same, whereby the cittie is greatlie burdened and chardged with many poore people which ought to be mayneteyned in the places where they were borne or made their last aboade by the space of three yeares accordinge to the statute in that case provided,¹¹¹ it is ordered, enacted and established by the Maior, Aldermen and Common Counsell this daie assembled, that the churchwardens and sidemen in every parishe within the cittie and liberties thereof, takinge unto them a cunstable or twoe to accompany them within the ward of the same parishe, shall every Thursdaie weekelye, until other order shalbe taken heerein, make diligent search throughe out their parishe in all houses and places where they shall thinck most fitt and convenient for the fynding out of all such strangers and poore people which shall soe resort to this cittie and be here harboured and shall furthwith or the next daie after suche search present the names of *Folio* 64v all suche persons as they shall soe fynde within the said cittie and liberties to the Maior and Aldermen in the Tolsey, to thend that they maie take order for the removinge of all suche persons. And yf any churchwarden, sydman or cunstable shall refuse to make suche searche or shall neglect the same or not make presentment as aforesaid, he shall suffer suche punishment as by the said Maior and Aldermen, or the more part of them, shalbe appoynted.

[*In the margin* For expellinge strangers out of the cytty. To contynewe.]

XVIJO DIE MARCIJ ANNO DOMINI 1596

It is ordered and agreed by the Maior, Aldermen and Common Counsell that from hensforth noe person or persons shalbe admytted into the liberties of this cittie, by way of redemption for any some of money or for any suyte or request, except only suche as are artificers or doe or shall use any manuell occupacion within the said cittie or liberties. And these to be admytted by the consent of the Maior, Aldermen and fower of the Common Counsell to be yearely chosen by the Maior and Common Counsell as hath byn heretofore used. And yf any of the saide Maior, Aldermen or Common Counsell shall consent to the admitting of any person or persons contrary to the trew meaning of this present ordynance, then every suche person soe consenting shall forfeit and paie to the Chamberlen of the said Cittie to the use of the Maior and Commonialtye the some of one hundred poundes of lawfull Englishe money.

¹¹¹ An Act in 1531 ordered vagrants to be returned to their place of birth or where they had dwelt for the past three years. Five years later the parish was established as the administrative unit of poor relief.

[*In the margin* Non to be admited to the libertyes but by order. To contynewe.]

XXVIIJO DIE JUNIJ ANNO ELIZABETH
XXXIXO 1597

It is ordered and agreed that noe person or persons whatsoever shall buy or sell, recyve or deliver any corne or graine or any salt that shalbe brought into the road of Kingrode or Hungrode to be sould untill the same shalbe first brought upp to the Backe or Keye of Bristoll, upon paine of forfeiture of xijd upon every bushell to be paid to the Chamberlain of the cittie by the buyer of any suche corne or salt, and xij d. to be forfeited by the seller of any suche corne or salt for every bushell bought contrary to the¹¹² *Folio* 65 to the trew meaninge of this present ordynnaunce, the one half of the forfeitures to be to thuse of the Maior and Commonialty and the other half to the relief of the poore people of the said cittie, unlesse upon any reasonable cause there shalbe speciall lycense given by the Maior and Aldermen of the said cittie, or the most parte of them, for the tyme beinge to the contrary. [*In the margin* No corne, graine or any . . .¹¹³ be bought before it be brought to the Backe or Key. To be considered of.]

XVTO DIE SEPTEMBRE ANNO
ELIZABETH XXXIX 1597

This daie the orders were established and enacted toucheing the two Hospitalls called the Three Kinges of Cullyn and the Trynytie at Laffordes Gate and the landes thereunto belonging, and the government thereof as appeareth subscribed with the handes of the Maior, Aldermen and Sherives.

[*In the margin* Voide.]

Mr. Richard George beinge heretofore dismissed from the Common Counsell and office of Sherive weke by the paiement of tenn poundes for a fyne was this daie by his owne consent chosen againe into the Counsell and elected Sherive.

[*In the margin* Voide.]

TEMPORE MAIORATUS JOHANNIS
WEBBE SCILICET TERTIO DIE
APRILES ANNO REGNI REGINE
ELIZABETH XLMO

It is this daie ordered and agreed that the bookes of asseasment of the Rakers wages for carryinge of the soyle of the cittie and clensinge of the streates shal be collected quarterly according to the same bookes and taxacons sett downe and delivered unto Mr. Maior by the committees appoynted for that purpose by the Maior and Common Counsell at an assembly in the Counsell House the vijth of March last, and that the same shall take effect from the feast of the Nativity of Our Lord God last past and soe to contynewe hereafter. And that every person that shall refuse to paie the money asseased for his or her parte to paie to this purpose upon demand thereof shalbe comitted to prison by Mr. Maior for the tyme beinge, there to remayne untill the same money by him or

¹¹² *To the* repeated at top of fo. 65.

¹¹³ Illegible.

her due shalbe sattisfied and paied to the collector or collectors appoynted for the same.

[*In the margin* For payenge the Raker. P. . .¹¹⁴]

Folio 65v XXVJ DIE MAIJ ANNO REGNI REGINE

ELIZABETH ETC. XLO 1598

Memorandum that this daie the act made in the yeare of the Maioralty of Mr. John Prewett anno xviiijo Elizabeth Regine touching the avoydinge of lardg estates of the Chambers landes shalbe contynued and remayne in force.

[*In the margin* To contynewe.]

Itt is alsoe ordered and agreed that the Maior and Aldermen, together with Mr. Rice Jones, Mr. William Pawer, Mr. John Whitson, Mr. Christopher Kedgwyn, Mr. Thomas James and Mr. John Barker or the more parte of them, shall meete in the Counsell Chamber every Thursdaie weekley in the afternoone, and there peruse all suche actes and ordynances as are conteyned in the biffett booke or otherwise, and thereupon to consider of suche as by them shalbe thoughte nessessary and meete to stand in force, as alsoe of suche as they shall thincke fitte to be repealed and to signifie their opinions therein to the Common Counsell in their Counsell House assembled from tyme to tyme as they maie conveniently to thend that all suche ordynances as shalbe confirmed by the saide Maior and Comon Counsell maie be wrytten in a booke to remayne alwaies with the Maior for the tyme beinge to be dewly observed and putt in execution.

[*In the margin* Comyttes appoynted to vewe all the ordinances. Voide.]

Mr. William Ellis	)	Comittees appoynted for
Mr. John Hopkins	)	setting of an imposition
Mr. Rice Jones	)	upon all merchandizes
Mr. John Whitson	)	brought to this cittie from
Mr. Thomas James	)	beyond the seas for the
Mr. John Barker	)	charges of keeping the
Mr. Mathew Haviland	)	ryver.

Folio 66 XXXO DIE MAIJ ANNO REGNI REGINE

ELIZABETH ETC. XLMO 1598

This daie Mr. Nicholas Blake and Mr. Richard Kelke are dismissed from being of the Comon Counsell of this cittie for that they are dwelling in the Countrey and at no tyme resiaunte in the cittie to give their advise and Counsell as occacions shall requier. And alsoe Mr. John Harries is dismissed for that he giveth noe attendaunce when he is somoned to the Counsell House.

[*In the margin* Voide.]

It is enacted and agreed that the impositions and rates sett downe in the yeare of the Mayoralty of Mr. William Bird for the maynetey-nance of the Hospitall of Queene Elizabeth of Bristoll shalbe paid and collected for that purpose for and during the space of fower

¹¹⁴ Illegible.

yeares from the feast of the Nativity of St. John Baptist next ensueing and the orders then made for the levying thereof shalbe executed and remayne in force.

[*In the margin* Voide.]

This day there was a stipend established for the preacher to be paid quarterly in every parishe as hereafter followeth (that is to saie)

St. Nicholas parish	x li.
Christchurch	iiij li.
Alhallou parish	vj li.
St. Warbarrowe	iiij li.
St. Stephens	ij li. xiiij s. iiij d.
St. Johnes	iiij li.
St. James	ij li.
St. Peters	ij li.
St. Mary Porte	ij li.
St. Leonardes	j li. vj s. viij d.
St. Ewens	j li.
Temple parish	ij li.

Somma totales	xlj li.
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Folio 66v XXXO DIE MARTIJ ANNO REGNI
REGINE ELIZABETH ETC.
QUADRAGESIMO 1598.

It is ordered, consented and agreed that the Marshe which the boutchers of this citty have heretofore helde for forty shillings yearly shalbe forthwith taken into the handes and possession of the Mayor and Comminalty to dispose and converte the same and the profittes thereof to such uses as shalbe agreed on and appoynted by the Mayor, Aldermen and Comon Counsell. And that it shalbe lawfull for all countrey boutchers and any other victualers whatsoever at anytime hereafter to repayre to this citty and to sell any kind of good and wholsome fleshe to any Her Majesties people within the citty or liberties thereof without interrupcion or deniall, bringinge their hides and tallowe with them to this citty and there to sell the same to the citizens, the tyme of Lent only excepted, untill the Thursday before Easter weeke yearly. And that Mr. John Hopkins, Alderman, Mr. John Barker, Mr. Richard Smithe, Mr. Mathew Haveland, Mr. Robert Aldworth and Mr. William Colston shall appoynte convenient places for the said country butchers and other victuallers to repaire unto and to sell their victual as aforesaid. And that the boutchers of this citty shalbe at liberty accordinge to their petition to sell their tallowe at such reasonable prizes as they may to thinhabitantes of this citty and not to any other. And that the chandlers of this citty shall not be compelled to sell their candles at any certeyne price. And moreover that it shalbe lawfull to any forrayne chandlers or other person whatsoever to bringe or provide any candles and to sell the same within this citty or liberties thereof, without interruption or deniall.

[*In the margin* To contynewe.]

Folio 67 TEMPORE MAIORATUS WILLELMI
ELLIS SCILICET DECIMO DIE
OCTOBRIS ANNO REGNI REGINE
ELIZABETH ETC. XLMO 1598

It is this day ordered and agreed that from the after the laste day of this instant monethe all sortes of meale shalbee sould by weyghte after the rate of three scores poundes to the bushell and not otherwise, upon payne that every person which shall presume to buie or sell any kinde of meale contrary to this present ordinance shall forfeyte and pay to the Chamberlaine of the citty of Bristoll to the uses hereafter followinge the some of three shillinges fower pence. that is to say, the one halfe to the Chamberlaine and thother halfe to the poore people within this citty. And Clerke of the Markett shall have for his attendance and for mayntenance of wayghtes and bagges to waighe the same meale after the rate of ob. for every bushell to be paid by the seller thereof without takinge any other fee or toll.

[*In the margin* Meale to be sould by waight. To contynewe.]

Also it is ordered and agreed that the Sheriffes for the tyme beinge, or one of them, shall yearly see execucion donne upon suche rogues, vacabondes and other malefactors as shalbe hereafter comitted to the House of Correxion accordinge to such direction as shalbe sett downe by the Mayor and Justices.

[*In the margin* To contynewe.]

XXVIJMO DIE NOVEMBRIS ANNO
REGNI REGINE ELIZABETH ETC.
QUADRAGESIMO¹¹⁵ 1598.

Mr. Richard Smith and Mr. Aldworthe are appoynted to conferre with Mistresse Bird, late wife and Executrix of the laste will and testament of William Bird, gentleman, deceased, concerninge the band of a thousand pounce made by the Mayor and Commonalty for five hundred poundes given to Edward Bird, deceased, whereof CCC li. is discharged and order is to be taken for the other CC li. and the Chambers band to be taken upp.

[*In the margin* Voide.]

Mr. Fraunces Knight, Mr. William Pawer, Mr. John Whitson and Mr. John Barker are appoynted surveyors of the freeschole at the Bartholomewes and to take order for reformacion of suche matters as they shall finde amisse there.

[*In the margin* To contynewe.]

XIJO DIE DECEMBRIS ANNO REGNI
REGINE ELIZABETH ETC.
QUADRAGESIMO PRIMO 1598

It is ordered that every Alderman and every other of the Common Counsell attendinge Mr. Mayor in any solemne assembly at the Counsellhouse, Guildhall or els where shall weere a cappe and noe hatt, upon payne to forfeyte three shillinges fower pence to be paid to the Chamberlaine to the use of the Mayor and Comminalty unlesse

¹¹⁵ 27th November 1598 would be the 41st year of Elizabeth's reign which began on 17th November 1558.

upon reasonable cause he shalbe licensed to weare his hatt by the Mayor and twoe of the Aldermen.

[*In the margin* Wering of Caps. To contynewe.]

(*Folios 67v, 68 and 68v. are blank*)

Folio 69 CONVOCACIO DOMUS CONCILIJ DIE
MARTIS SCILICET VICESIMO QUINTO
DIE SEPTEMBRIS ANNO REGNI REGIS
CAROLO 2DI DE 18o ANNO DOMINI
1666.¹¹⁶ TEMPORE JOHANNIS
WILLOUGHBY, ARMIGERI, MAIORIS.

Whereas by the auntient customes, franchises and liberties of the towne and citty of Bristoll, noe persons not free of the Citty of Bristol may or ought to sell or putt to sale any wares or merchandizes within the said towne and citty, or liberties of the same by retayle, or keepe any shopp, place or rooms for the sale or putting to sale of any wares or merchandizes or for the use of any art, trade or occupacon, mistery or handycrafte, within the same, and particularly by the Charters of King John and King Henery the Third, late Kings of England, noe man shalbe received within the walls of the saide towne or dwell in the said towne as a householder by the assignent, or by the delivery and comandement of the Marshall, contrary and against the wills and minds of the burgesses. And that noe forreigne merchant shall buy within the towne of a stranger leather, hides or wooll, but of the burgesses of the said towne. And that noe alien or stranger shall keepe any taverne, or sell or utter his wines, but in his ship, nor shall sell cloth to be cutt but in open fayres, that noe stranger shall tarry or abide in the said towne with his merchandizes to make sale of his wares above forty dayes. And whereas also Edward, some King of England, of famous memory, the Third of that name, by his Charter made and graunted to the burgesses of the saide towne in the seveth and fortieth yeare of his reigne, confirmed also in Parliament (amongst other things graunted) that any customes or usages or ordinances in the said towne of Bristoll, suburbs or precinct had and practised, or that hereafter shall happen to grow, there may be any difficulty or defect for which a remedy hath not beene provided, the said Maior and Sharriffs and their successors, with the assent of the Commonalty of the said towne of Bristoll, suburbs and precinct, may elect successively from time to time forty men of the graver sort of men of the said towne, suburbs and precinct, which said Maior, Sherriffs and forty men for the time beinge, by their comon consent, may have power or ordeyning and establishing a competent remedy in the casse aforesaid that may bee agreeable to reason and profitable to the Cominalty aforesaid and to others resorting to the said towne of Bristoll. And whereas by force of the said customes, franchises and liberties, and of the Charter last aforemenconed, confirmed and is aforesaid¹¹⁷ . . . by Parliament, the Maior, Sherriffs and forty men for the time being of the same towne and citty by their common

¹¹⁶ This ordinance is repeated in B.R.O. 04273(1) and 04273(2).

¹¹⁷ Illegible but given as *specified* in B.R.O. 04273(1), fo. 90.

consent in Common Counsell, did in the fourteenth yeare of the reigne of King Henery the Eight as a course thought fitt and . . .¹¹⁸ able to that time . . .¹¹⁹ establish and enact that no burgesse of the towne *Folio* 69v shall receive into his house the goods or merchandizes of any stranger aswell of London as of the partes of Ireland or of any other place, but that the same goods or merchandizes bee brought into the Backhall of this towne, there to be openly putt to sale upon paine of discomuning every such burgesse soe doinge contrary, or paying a good fine by order of the Maior and Aldermen.

And whereas also severall acts of Common Counsell have beene since made against the colouring of strangers and forreigners goods by any of the burgesses of this citty and prohibiting the burgesses thereof to deale as factors for the sale of any goods belonging to such person or persons as are not free of the citty. Now forasmuch as diverse strangers and forreigners from the liberties of the said citty, nothing minding the said auncient customes, charters, franchises and liberties thereof, and actes and ordinances heretofore made according to the same, but wholly intending their private proffitt have of late years devised and practised by all sinister and subtile meanes to defraude the said Charters, liberties, customes, good orders and ordinances, and to that end doe now immediatly in private and secret places usually and ordinarily there sell and putt to sale their wares and merchadizes and use arts, trades, occupacons, misteryes and handycraftes within the said citty and liberties of the same to the great detriment and hurte of the freemen of the said citty, who pay lott and scott, beare offices, and undergoe other charges, which strangers and others not free are not chargeable withall nor will performe, for reformation of such disorders and of avoyding of such prejudice and danger as thereby groweth to the freemen of the said citty, and it is now more of late used then was any time heretofore suffered and to provide for the comon proffitt and good of the freemen and citizens of this citty, it is therefore by the Maior, Aldermen, Sherriffs and Common Counsell of the said citty in this Common Counsell assembled, ordeined and established, that noe person whatsoever not being free of the said citty of Bristoll shall at any time after the feast of St. Michaell now next ensueing by any color, way or means whatsoever, directly or indirectly, by himselfe or any other, there sell or putt to sale any wares or merchandizes whatsoever by retayle within the citty of Bristoll or the liberties or suburbs of the same, upon paine to forfeite to the Chamberlin of the said citty of Bristoll for the time being to the use of the Maior, burgesses and Commonalty of the said citty the sume of twenty pounds of lawfull mony of England for every time wherein such persons *Folio* 70 shall there sell or putt to sale any wares or merchandizes to sell by retayle within the said citty, liberties or suburbs, contrary to the true intent and meaning hereof. And it is further ordeyned and established that noe person whatsoever not being free of the citty of Bristoll shall at any

¹¹⁸ Possibly *agitable* but given as *agreable* in B.R.O. 04273(1), fo. 90.

¹¹⁹ Illegible but *ordeine* in B.R.O. 04273(1).

time after the feast of St. Michael now next ensuing by any colour, way or means whatsoever, directly or indirectly, by himselfe or by any others, keepe any shop or other place whatsoever, inward or outward, for their sale or putting to sale any wares or merchandizes whatsoever by way of retayle or use any art, trade, occupacion, mistery or handycrafte whatsoever within the same upon paine to forfeite the sume of Twenty pounds of lawfull mony of England for every time wherein such person shall keepe any shop or other place whatsoever, inward or outward, for their sale or putting to sale of any wares or merchandizes whatsoever by way of retayle, or use any art, trade, occupacion, mistery or handycraft whatsoever within the said citty contrary to the true intent and meaning hereof; all which paines, penalties, forfeitures and sumes of mony to be forfeited by vertue of this act or ordinance shalbe recovered by action of debte, bill or plainte to be commenced and prosecuted in the name of the Chamberlin of the said citty of Bristol for the time being in the Kings Majesties Courte to be holden in the Guildhall of the citty of Bristol before the Maior and Aldermen of the said citty wherein no essoigne or wager of law shalbe admitted or allowed for the debt, and that the Chamberlin of the said citty for the time being shall in all suites to be prosecuted by vertue of this act or ordinance against any offender recover the ordinary costes of suitt to be expended in and about the prosecution thereof. And further that one equall third parte of all forfeitures to bee recovered by vertue hereof, the costes of suitt for recovery of the same being deducted and allowed shalbe after the recovery and receipte thereof paid and delivered to the Treasurer¹²⁰ of Queene Elizabeths Hospitall in the Green, to be employed towards the releife of the poore children to be brought up and maintayned in the said Hospitall, and one other equall third parte to him or them which shall first give informacion of the offences for which such forfeiture shall grow and prosecute . . .¹²¹ in the name of the Chamberlin of the said citty for recovery of the same, and the other third partt to the use of the poore children of the Maids Hospitall in the Greene of the foundation of Alderman John Whitson, lately deceased, any thing in this act to the contrary notwithstanding. *Folio 70v* Provided always that this act or ordinance or any thing herein conteyned shall not extend to any person or persons for bringing or causing to be brought any victuals to bee sold within this citty and the liberties thereof, but that they and every of them may sell victuals within the said citty, liberties thereof, and wooll, and other commodities in St. Thomas Markett, as hath beene accustomed, and as they might lawfully have done before the making thereof, any thing herein contyned to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding.

¹²⁰ Here *Trtor* but given as *Treasurer* in B.R.O. 04273(1).

¹²¹ Illegible but *suite* in B.R.O. 04273(1).

CONVOCATIO DOMUS CONCILII DIE
MARTIS DECIMO DIE DECEMBRIS
ANNO REGNI REGIS CAROLI SECUNDI
AND DECIMO NONO, ANNO DOMINI
1667 TEMPORE EDWARDI MORGAN,
ARMIGERI, MAIOR.

Uppon consideracion of the coloring of strangers goodes by John Walter cooke, a free burgesse of this citty, a true prooffe whereof haveing bin made, and the said John Walter, uppon his appearance to answer the same and haveing not given any satisfaccion to this House for his said offence which, being contrary to the oath of a free burgesse of this citty, taken by him and destructive to the priviledges of this citty, it is this day ordered, enacted and ordeined, that the said John Walter shalbe from henceforth discommuned and be noe longer a free burgesse of this citty, and is hereby declared to be diffranchised from the libertyes and freedome of this citty accordingly. And that he shalbe taken and reputed to all intentes and purposes as a forreigner, and in all respects to be dealt withall accordingly, hereby requiring the Chamberlin of the said citty for the tyme being forthwith to shutt downe his shop windowes. And that the Belman doe publish the same up and downe the citty and particularly att the doore of the said John Walter.

Folio 71–74v are blank

Folio 75 Memorandum that the viijth day of July 1597 annoque Regni Regine Elizabeth xxxix there was a tryall made by the Right Worshippfull Mr. William Yate, then Maior of the cittie of Bristoll, in his owne view of the bakinge of one bushell of Danishe rye being bought for v s. viij d. the bushell as followeth videlicet

In primis the saied bushell of rye waied ungrounde 54 li. waite and waied somuch being grounde into meale, whereof was made 23 loaves, every of which loaves waied in dowe 48 ozs. and in bread being baked every loafe waied 45 ozs. To that every of the saied loaves being sould for iiij d., the peece there is gayned ij s. in the bushell, which is more by xv d. in the bushell then is allowed to the baker by the statute, which lymytteth but only vj s. gayne in the baking of a quarter which cometh but only to ix d. in a bushell.

CLAUSULA CARTE XLVIJ^o EDWARDI
TERTIJ VIDELIT

Insuper concessimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris prefatis burgen-sibus et eorum heredibus et successoribus imperpetuum quod dicta villa Bristollie aliquatenus non oneretur ad mittendum ad parlia-menta nostra vel heredum nostrorum nisi duos homines dumtaxat prout antea tam¹²² ut Millites comitatus Bristollie quam ut burgenses ville et burgi¹²³ in parlamenti illis respondere teneantur

AN OTHE FOR A SCHLOMASTER

I doe faithfully promise and by these presentes subscribed with

¹²² *Tam* inserted.

¹²³ The words *Bristollie pro eisdem comitatu villa et burgo* are in the original charter at this point but omitted here.

myne owne hande doe so testify, that duringe my aboad within any of the Queens domynions I will not by worde or deede, publickely or privately, directly or indirectely, impugne, deprave, dispise, reprehende or contempne, any government order, ryte or cememonye, by lawe established and retayned within the Church of England, but on the contrary will, by Goddes grace, observe and seeke the peace of the same Church to my power. And will from tyme to tyme adjoyne my selfe in publicke prayers, preachinges and administracion of sacramentes thereunto. And will frequente them dilligentlye, and none other assemblyes, meetinges or conventicles whatsoever. And doe hereby further promysse to instructe and perswade suche youtnes as are or shalbe committed unto me in due obedyence to her Majestie and the lawes heere in Englande established. And likewise to all others in auctoritye and neyther directely or indirectely move them to the contrarie.

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